Donarium from Mr Armstrong of the Order of the Holy Trinity. Nov. 4. 1788

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# THE UNIVERSAL SHORT-HAND,

By which any person, from a few weeks practice, may become able to keep pace with any Public Speaker, and carry off, *verbatim*, whatever may be delivered, whether on Philosophy, Law, Physic or Divinity.

*——————Scripturam abbreviandi*
*Invenisse modos, inventosve excoluisse,*
*Est aliquid.*

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# ADVERTISEMENT.

TO be able to keep pace with a public ſpeaker, and to take down, *verbatim*, whatever is delivered, is an accompliſhment attended with ſuch innumerable advantages to perſons in every ſphere of life, eſpecially to thoſe who are employed in the ſtudy of Languages, Philoſophy, Law, Phyſic, or Divinity, that it ſtands in need of no recommendation. How much is it to be regretted, notwithſtanding the many important and intereſting deciſions pronounced in the houſe of peers, and other ſupreme courts, though many volumes of them have been publiſhed, that the different opinions of the judges have been ſo ſeldom communicated to the world. It is not from a ſimple ſtate of the fact, and the judgment following upon it, that the knowledge of law is to be acquired. It is from the various reaſonings, and the different opinions of the judges, that the juſtice and ſpirit of any deciſion is to be diſcovered; and, without the aſſiſtance of Short-hand, theſe are not to be obtained. The intention of the preſent publication, is to put it in the power of every perſon, without the aſſiſtance of any other inſtructor, to qualify himſelf to commit to paper, whatever may be delivered, even by the moſt rapid ſpeaker. Of the innumerable ſyſtems of Short-hand with which the world has been favoured,

favoured, it is univerſally acknowledged, that the one publiſhed under Mr Byrom's name, is the beſt adapted for the purpoſe. The principles upon which it proceeds are ſo truly philoſophic, the characters ſo ſimple, the combinations ſo natural, the rules ſo obvious and eaſy to be retained, and the writing ſo interlineal, beautiful, and legible, that it muſt ever remain the beſt text for improvement. The capital objections to that book are, that the rules are too defuſe, and that a ſufficient number of ſpecimens are not given. Theſe defects, and others, are now ſupplied, and the art, it is apprehended, is brought nearly to a ſtate of perfection, and illuſtrated with abundance of examples, particularly from Sterne, and the Lectures of our celebrated profeſſors Doctors Cullen and Monro, as repreſented on plates 3d, 4th, 5th and 6th.

The learner is deſired to make himſelf fully maſter of the firſt, ſecond and ſeventh plates, before he proceeds farther. This may be done with great eaſe in a very few hours, and afterwards he will find no difficulty.

## ERRATUM.

Page 29th, line 6th, *read* firſt ſpecimen in Short-hand, Plate ſeventh.

## DIRECTIONS to the BINDER.

The firſt eleven Plates to face page 28th; the remainder to face page 62.

# UNIVERSAL

# SHORT-HAND WRITING.

## PART I.

THE Alphabet being the foundation upon which the perfection of this art depends, great care muſt be taken to eſtabliſh it in the beſt manner. All the ſimple ſounds muſt be repreſented by the ſhorteſt marks poſſible. We muſt, therefore, not only reject the complex marks eſtabliſhed by cuſtom in our common alphabet, but alſo thoſe letters themſelves whoſe ſounds may always be ſignified by others; and ſimple marks muſt be provided for ſuch ſimple ſounds as are by cuſtom repreſented by two letters a-piece: For which reaſon, it is neceſſary to examine the alphabet, and to fix the number of characters, before we proceed to inveſtigate the marks which are to repreſent them. Firſt, then, let us conſider what number of conſonants may be requiſite. We ſhall afterwards treat of the vowels, which are to be repreſented by points or dots.

The conſonants, according to our uſual reckoning, are, *b*, *c*. *d*, *f*, *g*, *h*, *j*, *k*, *l*, *m*, *n*, *p*, *q*, *r*, *s*, *t*, *v*, *w*, *x*, *y*, *z*. But cuſtom differs from nature in inſerting the letters *c*, *q*, *w*, *x*, *y*, and in omitting *ſh*, *zh*, *th*, *dh*, *ch*: For *c* having always either the ſound of *k* or *s*, *q* that of *koo*, *w* of *oo*, *x* of *ks*, and *y* of *i*, in an alphabet according to nature none of theſe could have found a place; and *ſh*, *zh*, *th*, *dh*, *ch*, repreſenting ſingle conſonantal ſounds as much a *ph* does, whoſe power is that of *f*, ought all to have been denoted by ſingle characters, as moſt of them are in the alphabets of other languages.

The natural alphabet, therefore, might have been taken for our ſhort-hand one, rejecting the ſuperfluous letters *c*, *q*, *w*, *x*, *y*, and inſerting in their ſtead, *ſh*, *zh*, *th*, *dh*, *ch*; but having ſome marks that were not conveniently applicable to any other purpoſe, and it being a compendium to repreſent two letters by a ſingle character, as in the *q* and *x*, and ſome eaſe to the reader to retain at the beginning of words the *w* and *y*, to which he has been long accuſtomed; we ſhall, totally rejecting the *c*, appropriate diſtinct marks to denote, *q*, *x*, *w*, *y*, when they are intial letters; not ſcrupling, however, in other ſituations, if it prove more convenient, to denote them by *k*, *ks*, *oo*, and *i*, reſpectively.

*Zh* never had any particular mark to ſignify it by; and cuſtom has, for a long period of time, ceaſed to make any diſtinction in writing between the *th* and *dh*: And as the adherence to nature in making nice diſtinctions, where cuſtom has not, would be ſo far, in this caſe, from ſerving any valuable purpoſe of ſhort-hand, that it would rather, on the contrary, render the learning to write and read it more difficult, we have, in purſuance of our plan, complied with cuſtom in dropping the *zh*, and marking the ſounds both of *th* and *dh*, by the ſame character.

*S* and *z* bear the ſame relation to each other, that the *th* and *dh* do; and the ſound of *z*, in our cuſtomary way of writing, is very frequently expreſſed by *s*, except in caſes when it occurs at the beginnging of words, which happen but very ſeldom. Theſe conſiderations induce us to ſecure the great convenience which ariſes from ſignifying both *s* and *z* by one mark. And, for a like reaſon, we ſhall make one mark repreſentative both of *f* and *v*. The ſenſe of the place will eaſily diſcover, to a man tolerably acquainted with Engliſh, which of the two it muſt there repreſent; and the reader will be taught, when the characters are appropriated to the conſonants, how, in moſt caſes, entirely to remove any little ambiguity that poſſibly might ariſe from it. Our alphabet will then conſiſt of the following conſonants, *viz*, *b*, *d*. (*f v*) *g*,

*g*, *h*, *j*, *k*, *l*, *m*, *n*, *p*, *q*, *r*, (*s*, *z*) *t*, *w*, *x*, *y*, *ch*, *ſh*, *th*.

The number of our conſonants being thus ſettled, and the reaſons for fixing upon that number being given; the next buſineſs muſt be, to invent as many ſimple marks, eaſy to be made and diſtinguiſhed from each other, as are neceſſarily required to repreſent them. They muſt be ſimple, if brevity be conſulted; and they muſt be eaſily diſtinguiſhable from each other, to avoid the confuſion ariſing from miſtaking one letter for another.

Nature affords us four ſtraight lines, ſufficiently diſtinguiſhable from each other, by their horizontal, perpendicular, and inclined poſition, to execute our deſign by; (ſee Plate 1. No. 1.); but it affords only theſe four. In this ſcarcity of ſtraight lines, recourſe muſt be had to curved ones for a further ſupply. The four ſtraight lines bent in the following manner, that is to ſay, the horizontal upwards and downwards, the perpendicular and inclined ones to the right and left, will each of them furniſh two more very good ſhort-hand marks; *ibid.* No 2.

The number of marks thus increaſed ſtill falls ſhort of ſupplying our wants. The beſt expedient to remedy this defect, is the addition of a little twirl to the beginning of as many of the foregoing marks as there will be occaſion for. It is eaſily and quickly made, when the marks are formed ſeparately;

ſeparately; and the twirled marks are joined to preceeding ones in as little time as the plain ones. No. 3. 4.

A ſufficient number of proper marks being thus obtained, it remains that each of them be appropriated to the particular conſonant which it is to repreſent. Eaſy as this may ſeem, it is, however, a point of the greateſt nicety; and demands, not only the moſt careful conſideration, but alſo the moſt aſſiduous application to continual trials and alterations. A ſhort-hand alphabet may have all its characters ſimple, eaſy, and diſtinguiſhable, when ſeparately formed; and yet not be a perfect one. To merit that title, it is further requiſite, that they be ſo contrived and adjuſted, that all the conſonants occurring in any word may be eaſily, beautifully, and interlineally joined together, between two given parallel lines, without taking off the pen. Experience has taught quick writers even of long-hand, that the joining all the letters of a word together contributes much to diſpatch, though they are obliged to make little additional ſtrokes for that purpoſe.

Let us then conſider, to what particular conſonant each of our marks is to be appropriated; and begin with the four ſtraight lines.

The firſt of theſe lines, *viz.* the horizontal, as it goes ſtraight forwards, can never exceed the limits of the given parallels, whatever part it begins

gins from; and therefore, in a ſhort-hand formed for lineal beauty, it muſt be appropriated to that conſonant, which, of all others, occurs the oftenеſt, and challenges, of right, the moſt commodious character for beauty and diſpatch. Now the conſonant that occurs the moſt frequently in our language (and perhaps in moſt others) is the *s*; which has a property, peculiar to itſelf, of mixing with other conſonants before or after it, without the intervention of a vowel. The plural number of moſt of our ſubſtantives, and the third perſon ſingular of our verbs, are formed by it; which muſt occaſion the moſt frequent repetition of it; ſo that, being undoubtedly the commoneſt of all our conſonants, it muſt of neceſſity be denoted by the horizontal ſtraight line.

The ſecond ſtraight line, or perpendicular, is alſo a very eaſy mark, and, ſeparately made, even preferable to the other; but as, in union with others, it may endanger our deſcending below the line, it muſt therefore be allotted to a common conſonant, and one alſo that will the leaſt occaſion us to run that hazard. Now the *t* has, in fact, theſe and other properties that entitle it to this perpendicular ſtraight line.

The third ſtraight line, by its peculiar inclination, is adapted to a very eaſy and convenient joining with other characters; becauſe our cuſtomary method of inclining the letters, in common writing, teaches us to form it with equal readi-

neſs

neſs upwards or downwards, as the keeping the previous or following marks within the preſcribed parallels ſhall require. The conſonant, therefore, that claims this character, is the *r*, which makes ſo many of our double conſonants, (as we call them,) and admits any other ſingle one to follow it immediately. The ſtraight line then which ſlopes downwards to the left is *r*.

The laſt line of the four ſtraight ones, by its direction or ſlope to the right, is aukward to make (and therefore never is made) upwards, like the foregoing, to which it unites the moſt readily. Its properties, upon trial, ſuit beſt with the occurrency of the conſonants *f* or *v*.

The twirl being formed to the left hand in theſe four marks, (No. 5.) diſqualifies them from an eaſy junction with any preceeding conſonant. They muſt then, for that reaſon, be aſſigned to ſuch conſonants as occur the ſeldomeſt in the middle or at the end of words, or to ſuch as may be otherwiſe ſignified when they do occur in ſuch ſituations. Now the *h*, or *j*, are rarely to be met with in the middle of words, unleſs immediately preceeded by ſome prepoſition, as *inhabit*, *reject*, &c. in which caſe, the reader will be taught hereafter how to write them: And when *x* and *y* are not at the beginning of words, they may be expreſſed by *ks*, and the dot for the vowel *i* reſpectively. The properties of theſe four letters agreeing well with thoſe of the four marks, luckily

point

point out a uſe for four eaſy characters, which could not, however, have been conveniently allotted to any other conſonants: And the following appropriation of them, upon trial, is found to be the moſt commodious, *viz.* the firſt for *h*, the ſecond for *j*, the third for *x*, and the fourth for *y*.

*K* is a very common conſonant; and the frequency of its occurrence will be much increaſed by its being made ſo often repreſentative of the rejected *c*, and *ks* of *x*: A character, therefore, which is not only eaſy to be made, but which will alſo join readily with all the reſt, without running either above or below the line, muſt be appropriated to it. The horizontal ſtraight line, with the additional twirl, will, for theſe reaſons, be the moſt commodious. But as the diſtinguiſhing the *k* and *q*, at the beginning of words eſpecially, will, in ſome degree, facilitate the reading, the horizontal ſtraight line with the twirl above is made for *k*, with the twirl below for *q*, when they are initial letters. In all other caſes, theſe two marks are uſed promiſcuouſly for *k* or *q*, whenever a more eaſy, beautiful junction may by that means be obtained; the one joining evidently much better with the characters which are written upwards, the other with thoſe downwards.

But, to give a detail of all the reaſons for the appropriation of each particular mark to each conſonant, would prove tedious. Moſt of them cannot

cannot eſcape the obſervation of an attentive practiſer as he goes along. It will, therefore, be ſufficient to aſſure the reader, that no pains was ſpared to adjuſt the alphabet to the utmoſt nicety, by ſuch an exact attention to continual trials and amendments as was neceſſary to aſcertain the preference of the diſpoſition of the characters in it to any other that could poſſibly have been pitched upon amongſt that almoſt infinite variety into which they might have been thrown; and that, if he has the curioſity to make the experiment, he will find, that no change can be made in the allotment of the marks, but what will be attended with conſiderable diſadvantage.

Two marks are allotted to *b*; (ſee table of the alphabet, plate II.) The firſt of theſe marks is the beſt when ſeparately formed, but does not join well with the *l* or *r*. For ſimilar reaſons, ſome other of the conſonants have more than one mark allotted to them.

One or other of the two marks appointed for *w* is always to be uſed when it is an initial letter; in other ſituations we ſcruple not to expreſs it by a dot in the *o* or *ou*' place, writing *pour* for *power*; eſpecially if it joins not well with the preceeding conſonant, or no great ambiguity ariſes thereby.

The marks being thus adjuſted to the particular conſonants which they are to repreſent, let us ſee how any precedent, ſubſequent, or intermediate

vowel may be affixed to any of theſe conſonants, as occaſion ſhall require.

In ſeparate letters there is no difficulty, there being five diſtinguiſhable places for any given vowel or point, either preceeding or following the conſonant: Reckoning, therefore, the vowels *a*, *e*, *i*, *o*, *u*, according to the eſtabliſhed number and ſequence, *a* is to be placed at the beginning of the conſonant, *e* at the end of the firſt quarter, *i* at the end of the ſecond quarter, that is, the middle, *o* at the end of the third quarter, and *u* at the end of the conſonant itſelf.

In the perpendicular and inclined letters, the vowels which precede are placed upon the left hand; thoſe which follow, upon the right; becauſe we write from left to right; as for example, *at*, *et*, *it*, *ot*, *ut*; *ta*, *te*, *ti*, *to*, *tu*. No. 6.

In the horizontal letters, the vowels which precede are placed above; thoſe which follow, below; becauſe we write from top to bottom; as, *as*, *es*, *is*, *os*, *us*; *ſa*, *ſe*, *ſi*, *ſo*, *ſu*. No. 7.

In the ſemicircular letters, the vowels *a*, *e*, *o*, *u*, are placed upon the left hand, the *i* above when they precede, and the contrary when they follow, agreeable to the two foregoing remarks; as, *am*, *em*, *im*, *om*, *um*; *ma*, *me*, *mi*, *mo*, *mu*. No. 8.

A vowel between two conſonants may be referred to either, and therefore ſeems to have two places: But, in letters which form an angle when joined,

joined, this is the caſe of *i* only; for *a* and *e* can only be placed immediately after the firſt conſonant, *o* and *u* only before the laſt; leſt *a* and *e*, if placed before the laſt, ſhould, in the narrow part of the angle, be confounded with *u* and *o* after the firſt; as *rat*, *ret*, *rit*, *rot*, *rut*. No. 9.

This twofold place of *i* may be of uſe in diſtinguiſhing, when thought neceſſary, the ſhort *i* from the long one, by making it ſhort when placed immediately after the firſt conſonant, long when before the ſecond; as *quit*, *quite*. No. 10.

The great difficulty of learning the true pronunciation of our language, occaſioned chiefly by our perplexed, various, and confuſed way of ſpelling, has been always matter of much complaint with all foreigners who have attempted to learn it. But this abſurd irregularly is by far the moſt remarkable in the cuſtomary management, or rather miſmanagement of the vowels. It is hardly poſſible to give a rule for them, againſt which the exceptions will not be almoſt as numerous as the agreeing inſtances. How frequently do we put two, nay ſometimes three vowels, to expreſs the ſound of one only? What, for example, has the *e* and *a* to do in the word *beauty?* The ſhorthand writer, however, is not embarraſſed with any of theſe difficulties. He, totally diſregarding the common way of ſpelling, is to inſert only

ſuch

ſuch letters as are pronounced; and muſt conſequently write the word *beauty* thus, *buty*. But the inſertion of more vowels than are neceſſary to the ſound is not the only inſtance of irregularity to be met with;—there being more than five vowel-ſounds in our language; and cuſtom, having allotted only five letters to ſignify them all by, often makes one vowel expreſs two or three different ones, nay, even diphthongs or combinations of vowels. We, therefore, taking the advantage which cuſtom in this caſe affords us, ſhall extend the power of our dots or points to the ſame degree. The fairneſs and propriety of doing this will more fully appear upon a particular examination of all the vowels in their order.

And, firſt, in common writing, the letter *a* has three powers, *viz.* that of *a*, of *ai*, or *ay*, and of *au* or *aw*; as in the words *father*, *fable*, *fall*, or *amen*, *able*, *altar*; which are pronounced all one as if they had been written *father*, *faible*, *faul*, or *amen*, *aible*, *aultur*: So that we are fairly authoriſed to extend the power of our vowel or point to the ſame degree in all other inſtances.

The vowel *e* ſometimes expreſſes ſingly the ſound that two of them are often made for, as in, *he*, *me*, *we*; where its ſound is the ſame as that of two *e's*, as in *fee*, *tree*, *agree*, &c. We are therefore free to uſe one *e* in this caſe, whenever

it

it ſuits our purpoſe, as well as for *ea*, *ey*, *ei*, *eo*; for of what uſe is the latter of theſe vowels in *pea*, *prey*, *heifer*, *people*, but to puzzle children and foreigners?

The ſame irregularity and confuſion is obſervable in the cuſtomary management of the other vowels, *i*, *o*, and *u*; they each of them ſingly expreſſing ſeveral different ſounds, which alſo are denoted at other times by ſeveral different combinations of them. The vowel *i*, for inſtance, when it is ſhort, is ſounded in Engliſh as *ee*, agreeable to the pronunciation of it in moſt foreign languages; when long, it has always the ſound of a diphthong, or combination of the two vowel-ſounds, (which we might expreſs by the open *a*, or *au*, and the ſhort *i* or *ee*;) which ſound or diphthong is alſo ſometimes expreſſed by *oi*, as *fill*, *file*, *foil*, *fin*, *fine*, *foin*.

In like manner, the vowel *o* has ſeveral different ſounds; as in the words *pol*, *pole*, *do*: The ſound of the *o* in *pole*, is ſometimes expreſſed by *ow*, as to *ſow*; ſometimes by *wo*, as *ſword*; ſometimes by *oa*, as *foal*; its ſound in *do*, by *oo*, *wo*, and *ough*, as *too*, *two*, *through*.

And, laſtly, the ſound of *u* (which is always, when long, really a diphthong, expreſſible by the combination of the two vowel ſounds *ee oo*) is denoted in a great variety of ways in our common ſpelling, viz. by *u*, *ue eu*, *ew*, *ieu*, *iew*, *ugh*, *eau*, *you*; as in the words *tune*, *due*, *few*, *adieu*, *view*, *hugh*,

*hugh, beauty, you.* We are therefore certainly at liberty to repreſent all theſe by a point, in the place of the vowel *u*; and thus not only all the ſingle vowels, but all the combinations of them, are expreſſible by the ſhorteſt and eaſieſt of all marks, *viz.* a dot in the place of the vowel of neareſt found.

We will now proceed to examine what further uſe we can make of theſe marks or letters for the purpoſes of ſhort-hand. And, as numeral figures exhibit to us a kind of ſhort-hand with which every one is acquainted, an alluſion to them will perhaps explain what we have to ſay hereupon.

Obſerve, then, the figures by which the words or numbers one, five, four, ſix, are expreſſed in the Roman characters, which are likewiſe ſome of thoſe which we make uſe of; I, V, IV, VI. Here we ſee the figure I is conſidered in three different ſituations, as ſtanding by itſelf, cloſe before, and cloſe after another figure: And has accordingly three different powers, of numeration, ſubtraction, and addition. When it ſtands by itſelf, its name and power is one; when it is cloſe to, or belongs to another figure, it loſes its name, yet retains ſomething relative to its power, by leſſening or increaſing that other figure by one; and both together concur to ſignify but one word or number, vulgarly expreſſed by the ſingle figure of 4 or 6.

To

To apply this to ſhort hand; let the ſame character |, being our letter *t*, have alſo its three diſtinct powers, *viz.*

Firſt, When it ſtands by itſelf, let it expreſs the commoneſt word or particle in our language the initial conſonant of which is a *t*: Let the name therefore of this character, for inſtance, be *the*; a word which we have ſuch perpetual occaſion to write.

Secondly, When it is placed cloſe before any other characters, let it ſtand for the commoneſt prepoſition, or leading part of a word, that begins with the ſame conſonant; which in this caſe will be *trans*.

And, thirdly, When cloſe at the end of other marks, let it ſignify the commoneſt ending or termination, of which the firſt (or only) conſonant likewiſe is *t*, viz. *ity*.

From this eaſy and regular aſſignment of a threefold power or ſignification to a conſonant, a threefold advantage naturally follows. 1ſt, By allotting to every mark ſtanding by itſelf, a name, *viz.* that of the commoneſt word or particle of which it is the firſt, we ſhall have a number of words, one or other of them perpetually occurring, diſpatched by the ſingle characters of the alphabet, which otherwiſe, when ſingle, would ſtand for nothing.

2dly, The prepoſitional part of a word being deſcribed by its leading conſonant in cloſe ſituation,

tion, but unjoined to the following part of it, ſecures alike the beauty and the brevity of the characters in many caſes wherein it could not otherwiſe be maintained; and alſo renders arbitrary marks needleſs and ſuperfluous; there being no ſort of occaſion for complicated crotchets where the ſimple letter determines preciſely enough the prepoſition wanted.

3dly, As it does likewiſe the termination, by its near approach to the end of characters; when, by the mutual help of each other, they deſcribe a word ſufficiently to diſtinguiſh it from all others.

Thus, in the inſtance here alluded to, the ſame ſtraight lines, and the ſame ſituation of them, by which four different numbers are expreſſed in numeral ſhort-hand, are thoſe by which we ſhould, in literal ſhort-hand, expreſs occaſionally four ſuch words as the letters and ſimilar uſe of them juſt hinted at would deſcribe, *viz.* in the numeral I *one*, V *five*, IV *four*, VI *ſix*; in the literal I *the*, V *fr*, IV *transfer*, VI *frity*.

For though the initial and final power of a conſonant could not, indeed, be expreſſed in this manner by a bad alphabet, and a piecemeal huddling of its characters up and down, to denote the vowel's places; yet, in a well contrived one, where conſonants of ſhorter words fall eaſily, by one continued ſtroke, into each other, a break in thoſe of longer ones may be ſo deſcriptive of their initial or final ſyllables, as often to expreſs the whole

whole with a conciſeneſs which many ſhorter words may not admit of. Every conſonant, then, may denote, according to its ſingle, previous, or final ſituation, a common word, prepoſition, or termination.

But the horizontal ſtraight line may be made from the top, middle, or bottom of the ſaid horizontal ſpace, that is, from the place of *a*, *i*, or *u*: ſince, then, theſe vowels before an *s* make the three common words *as*, *is* *us*, it may as well ſtand for them all, in their ſeveral places, after this manner, *as*, *is*, *us*. No 11.

*Trans* is the only common prepoſition beginning with *t*: But there are three common ones that begin with *s*, viz. *ſuper*, *circum* (or, as we ſhould write it according to nature, *ſircum*) and *ſub*, which the horizontal ſtraight line may alſo ſtand for, at the top, middle, and bottom of the line; *circum* in the middle, becauſe of its firſt vowel *i*: But if, for the like reaſon, *ſuper* and *ſub* were both written at the bottom, it might occaſion an ambiguity; therefore we made *ſuper* over *circum*, and *ſub* under it, becauſe (in Latin) they ſignify *over* and *under*.

Again, the commoneſt termination in our language is *ſion* or *tion*; in pronuncication, *ſhon*. There are a thouſand words, all in general borrowed from the Latin, which end in this manner, the greateſt part of them of common uſe. Now,

let the letter *s* be drawn near to the end of any of theſe words, from the place of the vowel preceeding the *ſion* or *tion*, and it will ſerve for any three final ſyllables whatever of the numerous words that afford this termination.

A few inſtances may ſuffice; as, *oration*, *repletion*, *attrition*, *promotion*, *effuſion*, No 12. And alſo, when one or more conſonants intervene between the vowel and termination *tion* or *ſion*, they are, by the rule, to be expreſſed by the *s*, drawn from the vowel's place; as, *attraction*, *attention*, *affliction*, *adoption*, *eruption*, No 13.

All the reſt of the conſonants are to be conſidered in the ſame threefold light, *viz.* as ſtanding by themſelves, as placed cloſe before, or cloſe after other marks; and muſt, accordingly, have a power of denoting ſome common word, prepoſition, or termination, in which that conſonant is found. This is the general rule; but in practice there are few prepoſitions and terminations neceſſary or uſeful beſides thoſe ſet down in the alphabetical table. This rule is very convenient in ſomes caſes; as where the conſonants of which the word is compoſed join not well together, or cannot be within the parallels; for inſtance, in *behold*, *inhabit*, *depoſit*, No 14. and affords a great contraction in others, as *underwritten*, *diſtinction*, *direction*, No 15. But here it is to be obſerved, that, in placing the termination, regard is to be had to the vowel's place with reſpect to

to the line, and not to its place after the laſt conſonant, (except that happens to be one or other of the three horizontal characters *s*, *k*, or *q*, as in the above word *direction*): The *s* is drawn from the *e*'s place in the line; but it is in the *o*'s place with reſpect to the laſt conſonant *r*, which appears evidently to have begun at the bottom of the line. But when *s*, *k*, or *q*, immediately precede the termination, regard is then to be had to the vowel's place after the letter, as *aſſumption*, *aſſertion*, No 16. The plural number of the termination is denoted by adding a little *s*; as *verities*, *diſtinctions*, No 17.

Before the learner begins to write by the preceding alphabet, it may not be improper to premiſe a few obſervations upon the form and reſpective proportion of the letters, and the ways of joining the curved ones with the moſt eaſe and elegance.

Firſt, All the perpendicular and inclined letters (that is, all the letters except *s*, *k*, *q*, *m*, *n*, *ch*, and *g*,) are made to touch two parallel lines, the diſtance of which is meaſured by the perpendicular ſtraight line *t*, as in No 18.; but, however, theſe letters are ſometimes, for greater convenience, made of half ſize, and two of them included between the parallels, as in the ſeventh and eighth examples, No 18.

The letters *m*, *n*, *ch*, and *g*, are ſemicircles; the diameter of which is the *s*, and their radius

or

or height is rather more than one third part of the *t*.

The letters formed from the three ſtraight lines, *t*, *r*, and *f*, are ſegments of larger circles, whoſe chords are the letters *t*, *r*, and *f*, reſpectively.

It muſt be obſerved, however, that it is not neceſſary, and indeed ſcarce poſſible, that theſe proportions ſhould be exactly kept, eſpecially in quick writing; but they are given here, becauſe the nearer they are kept to, the more beautiful the writing appears.

Secondly, When *m* and *n* are joined together, they are not each of them to be made complete; but a part is to be cut off from each of them; and in the ſame manner the inclined letters, when joined with, *m* or *n*, are not made complete, but running into one another, loſe each a part, at No 19. So the reſt of the curve line letters, when joined together, are made to run into one another ſmoothly; avoiding, by this means, that ſtopping of the pen which the making of any angle neceſſarily occaſions; as for inſtance *mp* is not written, as in the firſt example No 20. but as in the ſecond, part of the curved line being in common both to the *m* and *p*.

Thirdly, The twirl is always made at the beginning, never at the end of any letter; whenever, therefore, the characters No 21. occur, they muſt be ſuppoſed to have been begun from the bottom

bottom of the line. The general rule is, That all perpendicular and inclined letters are to be begun from the top, and drawn downwards; but, in all inſtances, in which the inclined letters No 22. will join better with the preceding or following marks, if drawn upwards, they muſt be drawn in that direction, as in theſe words, No 23.

Fourthly, The initial or final vowels (the *e* mute excepted) are generally expreſſed, and the middle ones omitted, except in caſes where there are many words conſiſting of the ſame conſonants which might be liable to be taken for one another. But all words which have one conſonant only (except thoſe in the table of the alphabet, which are expreſſed by the letter alone) muſt always have the proper vowel point expreſſed, as *by*, *to*, &c. becauſe theſe little words are, as it were, the keys of the ſentences in which they are found.

Fifthly, Few monoſyllables beginning with a vowel are immediately followed with either *h* or *w*; for which reaſon, theſe characters, having a point before them, denote *ht* and *wt* reſpectively, with the proper vowel between them; as *hat*, *het*, *hit*, *hot*, *hut*, and *wat*, *wet*, *wit*, *wot*, *wut*, No 24.

Sixthly, As the horizontal letters *s*, *k*, *q*, and the curved ones *m*, *n*, *ch*, and *g*, may be written at the top or bottom, or any part of the line, the vowel following them may be expreſſed by their ſituation

tion between the parallels; and as *ſan*, *ſun*, *man*, *mun*, No. 25.

Seventhly, The firſt mark for the *th* in the table, not joining well with the mark for *r*, which, however, is very frequently combined with it; and the other *th*, being, by reaſon of our cuſtomary method of leaning the letters the contrary way in common writing, not ſo readily made; *t* may be put for *th*, when the adjoining letter is of half ſize only, as *thr*, *rth*, *thm*, *thn*, *ths*, No 26. In other caſes, a letter of half ſize ſignifies that the adjoining one is to be reſolved into two letters, as *trr*, in the firſt example No. 27.; for here the *r* being twice as long in proportion to the *t* as it ought to have been, had only one *r* been deſigned, ſhows, that in this caſe the *r* of double length denotes *rr*, but, in the ſecond example, the laſt character does not ſignify *ll*; for it cannot be reſolved into *ll*; but may be into *lf*; for, if you divide the laſt character into two halves, the lower is our mark for *f*: In like manner, the third example is *ſtt*.—When there is no other conſonant to be joined to the inclined letters *f* or *r*, the lengthening of them by a greater inclination than uſual denotes that they are to be reſolved into two letters *rr*, *ff*, or *vv*, *fv* or *vf*; as in the three firſt examples, No 28. *error*, *five*, *feoffee*: But, when two *t*'s form a word, as for example, the word *taught*, or, as we ſhould ſpell it, *taut*, this expedient cannot be uſed, without going either above

or

or below the line, which is not to be done upon any account whatſoever. In this caſe a little break muſt be made in the *t*, to ſhow that there are two *t*'s. Vide the fourth example, No. 28. This muſt be confeſſed to be not altogether regular, and conformable to our rules of joining the letters; and, had many inſtances occurred, their frequency would have furniſhed a juſt objection againſt our alphabet; but, on the contrary, the repetition of the *t* forming fewer words than that of the other conſonants, was one reaſon of appropriating the perpendicular line to the *t*, the word *taught* being the only one that often occurs in practice.

Eighthly, In ſome few inſtances, where a letter joins not well with the preceeding one, as the *g* with any drawn downwards, the *ch* with any upwards, and the *j* with neither; we ſcruple not to borrow the oppoſite one, or ſome other of nearly the ſame ſound, in its ſtead; writing, inſtead of *voyage*, *voyach*; *fikure*, for *figure*; *churſh*, for *church*; *macheſty*, for *majeſty*; No. 29. And when *n* happens to be at the bottom of the line, and is followed by *d*, for the ſake of eaſy joining, we write *p* inſtead of the *d*, as in the firſt example No. 30. *fnp* for *fnd*; and as few words in our language end in *np*, this can cauſe little ambiguity.

Ninthly, *Cm* and *cn* occurring very frequently, for the ſake of diſpatch, we ſhorten the marks for *k* and *q*, when followed by *m* or *n*, as in the third

and

and fifth examples, No 30. Theſe cannot be miſtaken for *ch* and *g*, the twirl being on the contrary ſide.

Tenthly, The firſt mark, No 31. placed cloſe after a word, denotes, that there is one ſyllable ſtill wanting to complete the word; and *ing* being a very common final ſyllable, it is often ſo denoted; as, *being*, *writing*, No 31.

Eleventhly, A point ſtanding by itſelf has a power, as well as the conſonant marks, of repreſenting a common word. At the top of the line, it ſignifies the particle *a*; as, *a man:* In the middle *I*, or *eye*; as, *I will*, *his eye:* In the *o*'s place *o*; as, *O Lord:* At the bottom *you*; as, *you will*, No. 32.

Twelfthly, The common way of writing numbers being very compendious, we generally uſe it when numbers occur. The comma, as it does not reſemble any of our ſhort-hand marks, may always be uſed; but, when a full ſtop is thought neceſſary, the ſmall circle after the examples, No 10. 16. 20. and 32. may be uſed inſtead of the point.

To theſe rules it may be proper to add a few obſervations. In writing words (as before obſerved) we join all the conſonants, that are wanted, together; to which, if they ſuffice to diſtinguiſh a word, it is needleſs to add any of its vowels. As for inſtance, to write the word *ſtrife*, we join the four conſonants of which it is compoſed into one

one continued mark or figure compriſed within the due limits, as in No. 33. firſt example: For if, without regarding the limits, we ſhould make it as in example ſecond, the letters would be the ſame indeed; but the direction in this, and all ſimilar caſes, is evidently more incommodious. When, therefore, there are different ways of joining the ſame letters together, we muſt accuſtom ourſelves to the beſt, or moſt lineal. The ſameneſs of the entire figure, as well as that of its compoſing letters, is worth the writer's while to maintain; and alſo facilitates mutual reading between the fellow-practiſers of the ſame method. There is a kind of mechaniſm in the caſe, by which the attention, being leſs fatigued with any deviations of unuſual appearance, eaſily apprehends the meaning of that which is more conformable to a ſtandard.

Though the letters *ſtrf* are abundantly deſcriptive of the word *ſtrife*: yet, if any one pleaſes, he may add the point for the vowel *i*, (as in the third example, No. 33.) to ſuggeſt the word to him at firſt, until he can read it readily without that aſſiſtance.

In ſingle words, the chief difficulty is, to unlearn the unnatural and perplexed method of ſpelling to which we have been long habituated. In this word, *practice*, for example, the conſonant *c* is pronounced as *k* in the firſt ſyllable, and as *ſ* in the ſecond, and the vowel *e* has no pronunciation

at all. But being uſed to theſe difficulties, it is now become one to know the word by its true and genuine ſpelling according to our ſhort-hand alphabet, viz. *praktis.*

*It may highly perplex a careleſs writer of new characters, to decypher the true ſenſe thereof; though it ſhould be eaſy enough to know it, by a little application and practice.* But what child would not ſooner learn to read this ſame ſentence, if, after being taught the uſe of his alphabet, he ſhould have it thus written *?—It ma hili perpleks a karles riter of nu karakters, to deſifer the tru ſens thereof; tho it ſhud be eſi enuf to kno it, be a litl aplikaſhon and praktis.*

Inſtead, therefore, of ſcrupling to return from ſuch cuſtomary rules as children are firſt initiated in, to a more juſt and alphabetical way of writing ſhort-hand, men may eaſily be taught, when ripened into ſome acquaintance with their mother-tongue, to reverſe the liberties perpetually taken in long-hand, that is, inſtead of employing more letters than are preciſely neceſſary to expreſs the ſound of words, they may make uſe of fewer, not only diſmiſſing ſuch as are needleſs to the ſound, but ſuch alſo as may be omitted, and yet leave the ſenſe of the words eaſily diſcoverable. If they can tell what is wanting, it is all one as if it was there; the leſs expreſſion there is, ſo much the better for the purpoſes of brevity, which juſtifies the

the greateſt omiſſions, provided what is left be intelligible.

And though the omiſſion of the vowels in the middle of words may, for a while at the firſt, make it difficult for a learner to read even his own writing without hesitation; yet that difficulty will certainly vaniſh, in proportion as the ſhort-hand marks become familiar to him, as it ariſes, not ſo much from that omiſſion, as from the ſtrange and unuſual appearances which the characters make to his eye, and which, for that reaſon, do not ſuggeſt to him the conſonants, for which they ſtand, ſo immediately, but that the attention of the mind is neceſſarily taken up in recollecting them one by one; whereas, did they appear ſo familiar and well known to him as all to be apprehended in one view, he would ſoon diſcover the word, though all the middle vowels were left out. If any one doubts this, he may ſoon convince himſelf, by writing in the common long-hand exactly the ſame letters which he had written before in the ſhort-hand characters; and if he can read it with eaſe when ſo tranſcribed, he may be certain that a little cuſtom will make the reading of ſhort-hand every whit as eaſy to him.

And now, the way being ſufficiently cleared before him, the learner, after he has, by repeated trials, acquired a facility of forming, with tolerable exactneſs, all the letters of the alphabet ſeparately, and of remembering what particular conſonant

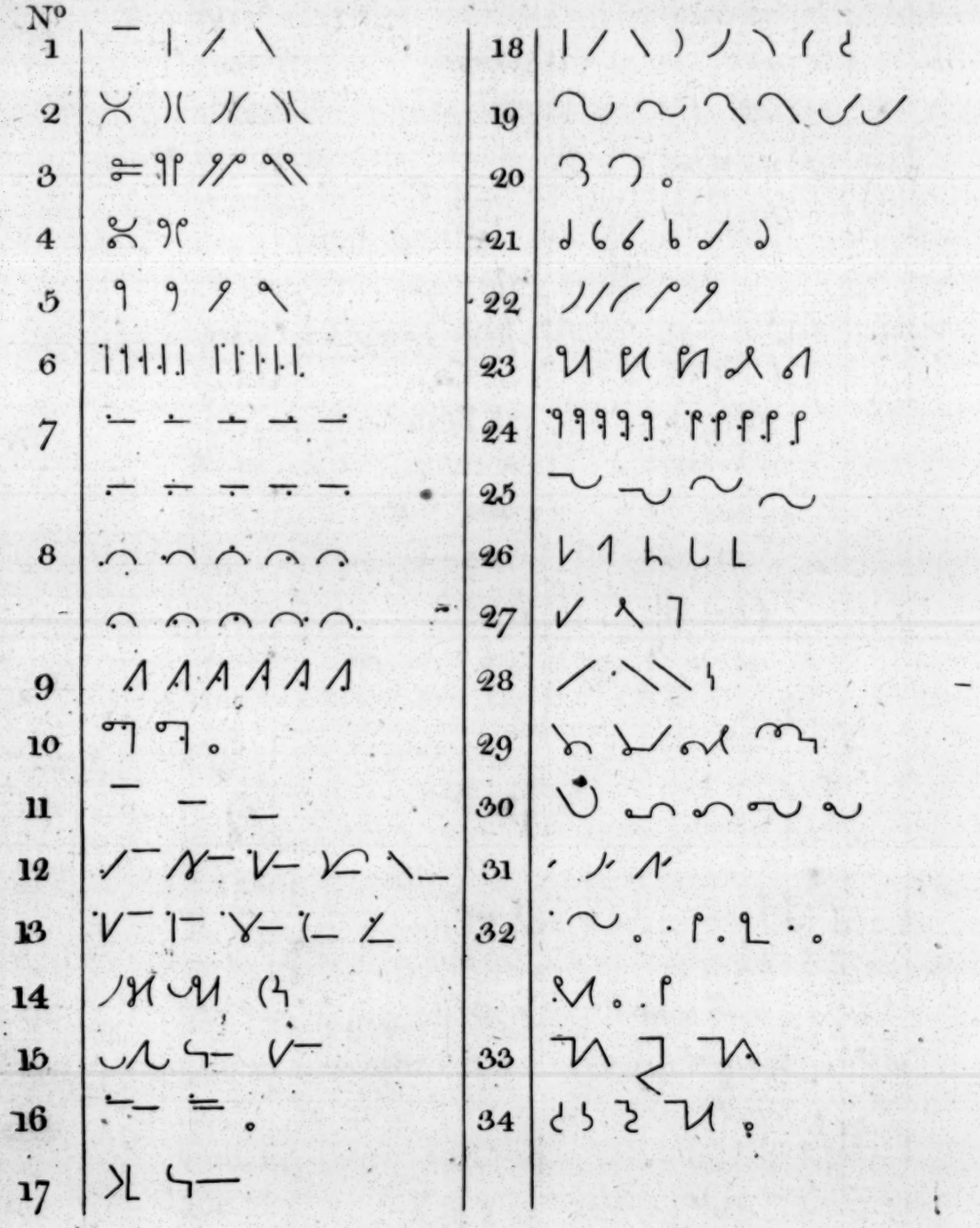
ſonant each of them repreſents, may proceed to join two or three of the marks together; writing at firſt only ſhort words, and frequently trying different ways of joining the marks, in order to diſcover the beſt, and moſt elegant. Several of them being formed almoſt as eaſily upwards as downwards, he will find it convenient ſometimes to begin from the top, ſometimes from the bottom of the line, according to the nature of the mark which follows; and when two marks, which admit of being written downward only, come together, the line muſt be divided between them, making each of them half the uſual depth, as in examples firſt and ſecond, No 34. and, in ſome very rare inſtances, he will be forced to make them three deep, as *ſtupid*, (example third;) except he chuſes to make uſe of the expedient of borrowing the *b*, a letter not very different in ſound, writing *ſtubid* for *ſtupid*, as in the fourth example.

That the learner may proceed with the greater eaſe and certainty, we have given ſpecimens of writing according to the above rules, (Plates 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, and 11,) for his imitation. He ought to make himſelf fully maſter of the firſt ſpecimen, by reading and copying it over and over with great care, until it becomes quite natural and familiar to him, before he proceeds to the ſecond; and he ought in the ſame manner to make himſelf thoroughly acquainted with the ſecond, before he proceeds to the third. Thus moving with

ſlow,

# The Letters, Syllables, and common contractions.

## Part I.



# A Table containing the Alphabet the common Words which the Letters stand for y^e Prepositions and Terminations.

| | | Names | Prepositions | Terminations |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| ) | b | be but | be | ble or able |
| ( | d | and | de or dis | ed |
| \ | fv | of | for | ify |
| e | g | against | | |
| 9 d | h | have had | | |
| 9 d | j | judge just | | |
| ρ | k | can / could | con or com | ical |
| ρ ρ | l | all | | |
| ⌒ | m | amongst | mis | ment |
| ⌣ | n | an / in / under | ante or an / inter or in / under | nefs |
| ) | p | upon | pre per pro | |
| 9 | q | question | | |
| / | r | or | re | ary |
| — | s / z | as / is / us | super / circum / sub | a e i o u — tion or sion |
| 1 | t | the | trans | ity |
| P 6 | w | will would | with | ward |
| ∂ 9 | x | except exercise | ex or extra | |
| 9 | y | yet | | |
| 6 | ch | which | | |
| P 6 | sh | shall should | | ship |
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at &c / ta &c — a e i o u — a & eye o eave you

as &c / sa &c

am &c. ma &c. an &c. na &c.

BRITISH MUSEUM (NATURAL HISTORY)
1 MAY 32

Part of D.r Cullen's 90th Lecture on the practice of Physic A.1773

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*Part of D.r Monro's 4.th Lecture A.1773.*

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## I.

## II.

## III.

# Spectator Vol. 8th (N.o 586)

Pythagoras

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ſlow, but ſure ſteps, he will in a very few days find, that every difficulty has diſappeared, and that nothing remains but to practiſe till the habit is acquired. If he has the curioſity to compare the number of ſtrokes and dotts in his firſt ſpecimen in ſhort-hand, which is the Lord's prayer, with thoſe uſed when it is written in the common way, he will find, that the former contains only about 150, while the latter contains near ſix times that number; which ſhows how much time and labour may be ſaved, even by the few ſimple rules already given.

## PART II.

AN alphabet, formed upon the moſt juſt and natural plan, by which, with the help of a few general rules, all the words of the language to which it is particularly adapted, may be eaſily, neatly, and ſpeedily written, will not be ſufficient to ſatisfy the expectations of an inquiſitive reader; who muſt be ſenſible, that however complete the alphabet may be, yet many compendious applications of it may be obtained by a proper inquiry into the nature of our language, and the abbreviations which it admits of. He will not be ſatisfied with being taught only how to expreſs all the letters of a word by the ſhorteſt and eaſieſt ſtrokes, but will alſo require further inſtruction how to deſcribe intelligibly words aud ſentences by as few

of

of thoſe ſtrokes as poſſible. To inveſtigate, from a few things given, many which are omitted, will be found no unpleaſant nor unprofitable exerciſe of the learner's ſagacity; and if the few be properly given, the ſenſe of the paſſage, and a due attention to the idiom of our own language, will render the diſcovery of the omiſſions more certain, and alſo leſs difficult, than the unexperienced can eaſily imagine. Without ſome ſuch rules of abbreviation, one end of ſhort-hand, that of following a ſpeaker, would ſcarcely be attainable.

Before the invention of the art of printing, the tedioufneſs of writing all the words at full length put the copiers of books upon forming many ways of abbreviating them, as appears in all manuſcripts. In thoſe of the New Teſtament, we find many principal words deſcribed by their initial and final letters only, with a daſh over them. In Latin manuſcripts, thoſe terminations, by which the relations of words to another, are in that language uſually expreſſed, were generally omitted: Nor was there any need of writing them at length; for the principal word being given, of which the reſt were governed in caſe, gender, and number, any reader who underſtood that language could eaſily ſupply thoſe omiſſions. Our language, generally expreſſing thoſe relations by little particles, does not indeed afford that particular mode of abbreviation. Upon a careful examination, however, it will be found capable of furniſhing many others as uſeful and extenſive.

But

But it will be proper, before we proceed further in this art of abbreviation, to advertiſe the learner, who is apt to be too eager to puſh forward, not to embaraſs himſelf with it, till, by a competent practice of writing according to the rules laid down in the firſt part, he is become ſo well acquainted with the characters, as to be able to write and read them with as much eaſe as his own common hand. The beſt way to learn any art is to proceed by degrees, not venturing upon a ſecond ſtep before the firſt is perfectly maſtered. And it is evident, that this method of proceeding is, on this occaſion, particularly neceſſary: For though, in many ſentences, the ſenſe, and the particular conſtruction of the words, may plainly enough point out ſuch of them, as are deſcribed with unuſual brevity; yet how ſhall an unpractiſed learner, unable to embrace in one view the words denoted by the preceeding and following marks, determine what the intermediate contracted ones muſt needs be? But, if he will have patience to abſtain from this ſecond part, until he can write readily, and read without heſitation, whatever is written according to the rules of the firſt, he may reſt aſſured that he will meet with little more difficulty in reading words contracted than he did in thoſe written more at length, provided that the rules of abbreviation be duly attended to. But, if the reader expects that we are to give him e-

very

very particular manner of obbreviation which can poſſibly be invented, he will be diſappointed. The principal and moſt uſeful rules are given; and it is left to the ſagacity of the practiſer, by obſerving the nature of theſe, and proceeding upon the ſame principles, to make ſuch further advances as his occaſions may require. It would be vain to pretend to have exhauſted a ſubject which is as extenſive as the language itſelf in which we write; and conſequently may be carried further and further by every one, in proportion to his ſkill in the language, and his knowledge of the ſubject treated upon.

The learner has been already taught how to write all the conſonants of any word by one continued mark, thoſe words only excepted which may be more briefly deſcribed by the help of prepoſitions and terminations. He may now advance a ſtep further, and join together ſuch ſhort words as are either repreſented by the letters of the alphabet alone; or ſuch as, by their frequent occurrence, are become ſo familiar, as to be readily known, though denoted by their firſt conſonants only. This will be found a greater ſaving of time than can eaſily be imagined; and muſt therefore, when diſpatch is required, be done in all inſtances in which they may be joined neatly and without ambiguity.

RULE I. The different times and modes of the verbs are generally expreſſed, in the Engliſh language,

language, by the help of other verbs, for that reaſon called auxiliary; as, *will*, *ſhall*, *have*, *had*, *can*, *could*, *may*, *muſt*, *be*, &c. Theſe muſt, upon that account, occur very frequently; and, being ſignified by their firſt conſonant, they may be joined to one another; as, *can be*, *will be*, *have* or *has been*, *to be*, *ought to be*, *muſt be*, Plate 12. No 1. and when the negative particle *not* intervenes, it may be denoted by its firſt conſonant, and be joined with them; as, *cannot be*, No 2. *will not be*, *have not been*, *not to be*, *ought not to be*, No 3. When theſe joinings are, by a little practice, become eaſy to the learner, he may proceed further, and join the preceding pronouns to theſe auxiliary verbs; as, *he muſt be*, *he cannot be*, No 4. This can occaſion no ambiguity: for, though he was taught in his alphabet, that theſe two marks No 5. denoted, the former *have*, and the latter *had*; yet, when placed immediately before *muſt* and *can*, their ſituation ſhows that they cannot, in that caſe, ſignify *have* and *had*, thoſe auxiliaries never admitting of ſuch an arrangement. And further, as *w* and *h* are often dropt in common ſpeech and writing, as *he'll* for *he will*, *we've* for *we have*; ſo they may, for the ſake of joining, be omitted in ſhort-hand; as, *he will*, *he will not be*, *they have been*. No 6.

RULE II. The learner was taught in the firſt part, That in writing all the conſonants of which

any word was compoſed, the beginnings of the marks which follow muſt always be joined to the ends of thoſe which precede them: Whenever, therefore, they are joined in any other manner, it is to denote, that each particular mark ſignifies a whole word, and not a ſingle letter: As for example, the particular way of joining the letters in the firſt example, No 7. is a ſufficient indication that they were not intended to repreſent a word conſiſting of thoſe two conſonants, but two words; and the *n* in the middle of the line ſtanding for *in*, and the *t* for *the*, *in the* may be written as in that example. So again, the ſecond example, No 7. denotes two words; and the *s* being drawn from the place of the vowel *i* ſhows the latter of them to be *is*: and though the ſtraight perpendicular line uſually repreſents the article *the*, yet, in that ſituation, it cannot poſſibly do ſo; for that article can never come immediately before a verb, but the pronouns very frequently do. *It is* may therefore be very commodiouſly written as in that ſecond example; and *it is not to be*, *as it is*, *ſince it is*, may be written as in No 8. and by dropping *w*, as before, we may write *it'as*, for *it was*, *it was not to be*; *it'ere to be*, for *it were to be*; *it ſeems to be*; as in No 9. for the *s* being drawn from the place of *e*, ſhows that it muſt be either *it es*——*to be*, or *it se*——*to be*; and *it ſeems to be* is a very common a phraſe, that it will not give much

much trouble to the reader, though written in this conciſe manner.

RULE III. Points being the ſhorteſt of all marks, it would argue a great want of œconomy, as well as invention, not to make all the uſe of them that can be made, conſiſtently with the regularity of our ſyſtem. The power of repreſenting prepoſitions and terminations, which was allotted to the conſonant marks, could not be given to the points: for, in that ſituation, they ſtand for the vowels; and all the diſtinguiſhable places, both before and after the conſonant marks, are already taken up by the five vowels: but a point placed directly over or under the beginning or end of any of thoſe marks, has as yet had no ſignification annexed to it. As for inſtance, in the ſecond example, No 10. the point being ſo placed, that if the *t* was produced, it would paſs through it, is very diſtinguiſhable from all the vowels. All derivative ſubſtantives may therefore be very conveniently repreſented by making the point ſtand for the ſubſtantive derived from the word at the end of which it is placed; ſo the two examples, No 10. ſignify *forget*, *forgetfulneſs*.—But as there are derivative adjectives and adverbs as well as ſubſtantives, it will be a great compendium to repreſent them alſo by points, diſtinguiſhable, by their ſituation, both from the ſubſtantive and the vowel points; which may be done by placing them in a line,

which,

which, if produced, would paſs through the ſubſtantive point, and would alſo be perpendicular to the laſt conſonant mark; and by making one placed before the ſubſtantive-point to ſignify the adjective, one after it to ſignify the adverb: As, *forgetful*, *forgetfulneſs*, *forgetfully*, No 11.; *reaſonable*, *reaſonableneſs*, *reaſonably*, No 12.; *ſufficient*, *ſufficiency*, *ſufficiently*, No 13.

RULE IV. Although the above deſcribed mode of abbreviation is very extenſive, there being in our language a great number of long words derived from ſhort ones; yet it is far from being the only uſe which may be made of theſe adjective, ſubſtantive, and adverb points. In all diſcourſes whatever, there muſt be ſome principal words, which, either by their more particular relation to the ſubject, or frequent occurrence, will be eaſily diſcoverable, however conciſely written. If ſuch words begin with a conſonant, the firſt letter, if not the firſt vowel and conſonant, with the adjective, ſubſtantive, or adverb point annexed, will ſuggeſt them immediately; and therefore will be, though a brief, yet a ſufficient deſcription of them. As for inſtance, if the following paſſage be tranſcribed out of a diſcourſe upon the folly of worldly-mindedneſs, in common long-hand, after this manner, *Our bleſſed L——, both by his preaching and ex——, has fully ſhown us the vanity and folly of ſeeking for ſolid and laſting h—— in the poſſeſſion of any of the goods of this preſent w——*

every one must immediately see, that the words, described by their initial letters, are too plainly pointed out by the nature of the subject, and their accompanying epithets, to leave any room for doubt or mistake. In following a speaker, the same description of them in short-hand must therefore be allowed to be sufficient. But it may not be amiss to give another instance or two, with the short-hand characters for the abbreviated words; as, *Life and* IMMORTALITY *are brought to light by the* GOSPEL; or again, *The* RESURREGTION *of the dead, and a future state of* REWARDS *and* PUNISHMENTS, *are plainly and positively taught in the gospel.* In these instances, *immortality*, *gospel*, *resurrection*, *rewards*, and *punishments*, may be wrote as in No. 14. So in writing after pleaders, who frequently use the expression, *with submission to your Lordship*, the words *submission* and *Lordship* may be wrote as in the first and second examples, No. 15. and, if the adjective *humble* be joined to *submission*, it may be denoted by its first consonant, and be joined to the substantive; and the words *humble submission* may be written as in the third example. This will be found a very useful compendium; for there are many substantives to which some particular adjectives are usually joined; as, *human nature*, *Christian religion*, *natural philosophy*, &c. Whenever, therefore, the subject treated of will lead to the discovery of the substantive, though

denoted

denoted only by its firſt conſonant, it will, at the ſame time, diſcover the adjoined adjective. This method may indeed appear, at firſt ſight, to claſh with the rule about derivative ſubſtantives; but it will ſeldom happen that the two conſonants will compoſe any word from which another can be derived; or, if it ſhould, it would ſcarcely ever be ſuch a one as would agree with the context.

It will appear evidently, upon a little conſideration of the nature of this mode of abbreviation, that no limits can be ſet to it; but that it may be more or leſs frequently uſed, in proportion to the knowledge, ſkill, and readineſs of the writer, which will enable him to judge in what inſtances ſuch liberties may be taken without occaſioning ambiguity. And every writer may accuſtom himſelf to mark ſuch words as moſt frequently occur in his own particular profeſſion, by the initial letters, with the ſubſtantive, adjective, and adverb points reſpectively, which, through cuſtom, will eaſily ſuggeſt thoſe words to him at firſt ſight. But it muſt not be underſtood, that thoſe marks neceſſarily imply thoſe words, and no other: They may ſtand for any other beginning with the ſame letters, which the ſenſe of the paſſages requires. It cannot therefore be expected that a liſt of them ſhould be given here; but the following are ſome of thoſe which are moſt commonly uſed; as *God*, *happineſs*, *heaven*, *Lord*, *always*, No 16.; *altogether*, *occaſion*, *accordingly*, No 17.; *notwithſtanding*,

*ſtanding*, *opinion*, *perhaps*, *religion*, No 18.; *ſubject*, *together*, *world*, No 19.

RULE V. An attention to that property of the Engliſh language, of expreſſing the different connections, and relations of one thing to another, for the moſt part, by prepoſitions, which the Greek and Latin, and ſome modern languages, do by varying the terminations of the ſubſtantives, will point out a further application of the dot to the purpoſes of abbreviation; for as, in the Latin manuſcripts, the root or body of the word being given, there was no neceſſity of writing the various terminations of the caſes, ſince any reader who underſtood that language could himſelf ſupply the particular termination which the caſe required; ſo, in Engliſh, if the two related ſubſtantives be ſuch as may be readily known, even when repreſented by their firſt conſonants only, they may be joined together, placing a dot at the point of their junction, to ſhow that they are both ſubſtantives; and the prepoſition connecting them may be omitted, for it may as certainly and as readily be ſupplied by the reader as the caſes in Latin before mentioned. This conſideration will therefore dictate the following rule, *viz.* That a dot placed at the point of concurrence of two conſonant marks, as in No 20. denotes two ſubſtantives, of which thoſe marks are the firſt conſonants; and alſo that the

latter

latter is governed of, or connected to, the former, by ſome prepoſition which is omitted.

As for example, in this ſentence, *The ſum or ſubſtance of all the commandments is contained in the two following*, viz. *the* LOVE OF GOD, *and the love of our neighbour*; the words *love of God* may be wrote as in the laſt example: For, as the particular ſituation of the dot denotes that both *L* and *G* are ſubſtantives, the article *the* before the firſt points out plainly enough the omitted prepoſition *of*; and the leaſt degree of attention to the words which precede and follow the contracted mark will diſcover that it muſt be the *love of God*.

Or again, *The* LOVE OF MONEY *is the root of all evil*; or, *Seek ye firſt the* KINGDOM OF GOD, *and his righteouſneſs*; theſe words *love of money*, and theſe other words *kingdom of God*, may be wrote as in No 21.

The articles *a* or *the*, in this and in many of the following ways of abbreviation, may, for the ſake of joining, be omitted, as in the following ſentence, *Since the light of the goſpel has ſhone upon* the *world*, &c. the *light of the goſpel* may be written as in No 20.

And further, though an adjective ſhould precede either of the ſubſtantives, yet they may all three be repreſented by their firſt conſonants joined together, with the dot always placed at the end of the firſt ſubſtantive. No difficulty can ever

ever ariſe in diſtinguiſhing the adjective from the ſubſtantives. For, in the following ſentence, *The great goodneſs of God is manifeſt in all his dealings with his creatures;* if theſe words, *great goodneſs of God*, be written as in No 22. the dot placed at the end of the ſecond mark ſhows that it muſt be the firſt ſubſtantive, the third muſt therefore denote the latter ſubſtantive, and the firſt conſequently the adjective. In like manner, in the following ſentence, *his Majeſty the King of Great Britain*, the words *King of Great Britain* may be wrote as in the firſt example, No 23. for the dot being placed at the end of the firſt mark, it is evident that the firſt muſt be a ſubſtantive; and a little attention to the uſual arrangement of words in the Engliſh language, ſuggeſts that the ſecond muſt be an adjective, as adjectives generally precede the ſubſtantives to which they are related: there is therefore as much given as if it had been written in long-hand thus: *His Majeſty, the K—— of G—— B——;* which, in a diſcourſe concerning him, would be ſufficient to diſcover that the contracted words muſt be *King of Great Britain.*

If each of the ſubſtantives have an adjective joined to them, there can be no difficulty; for the firſt and third muſt be adjectives, except in ſome rare inſtances in which the common order is ſometimes changed, and the laſt adjective is put after its ſubſtantive, as in this, *the great goodneſs*

*of God Almighty;* in ſuch caſes, either the laſt adjective muſt be ſeparated from the reſt of the mark; or, if joined, it muſt have the adjective dot annexed; and *the great goodneſs of God Almighty* may be written as in the ſecond example, No 23.

This relation of ſubſtantives, which is expreſſed in Latin by the genitive caſe, in Engliſh by the prepoſition *of*, is by far the moſt common: But the rule is more extenſive, and ſerves to expreſs two ſubſtantives connected by any prepoſition whatſoever, as *for*, *in*, *with*, *after*, &c. provided that the context, or any particular words of the ſentence, eaſily indicate not only the two ſubſtantives, which are denoted by their firſt conſonants, but alſo the prepoſition which ought to be inſerted. As, for example, in this ſentence, *Happy is it for us, if, convinced by experience of the vanity of puiting our truſt in man, we place all our confidence in God*, the three laſt words may be expreſſed as in the firſt example, No. 24. For the context plainly points out the two ſubſtantives; and the verb *place* marks evidently, that the omitted prepoſition cannot be *of*, but muſt be *in*.

In this ſentence, *Our holy religion abſolutely forbids all inſtances of revenge, our Saviour expreſsly commanding his diſciples to return good for evil;—good for evil* may be written as in the ſecond example; for the verb *return* ſhows plainly that it cannot be *good of evil*, but muſt be

*good*

*good for evil.* It may, perhaps, be objected here, that *v* is not the firſt letter of the word *evil*; but it muſt be obſerved, that the words of the rule are, That the dot denotes two ſubſtantives, of which thoſe marks are the firſt conſonants, not the firſt letters; and a word may ſometimes be ſo pointed out by others which accompany it, as to be eaſily diſcoverable, though the initial vowel be omitted.

It may not be improper to add another example or two for the better underſtanding of this rule; as thus, *In this preſent ſtate there is no ſuch thing to be met with as pure unmixed pleaſure or pain, good or evil; here below all things are mixed, pleaſure with pain, good with evil.* The latter part of the ſentence, *pleaſure with pain, good with evil*, may be wrote as in the two firſt marks, No. 25. for the word *mixed* requiring the prepoſition *with* after it, ſhows, that it cannot be *p*—— of *p*——, *g*—— of *v*——, but muſt be *p*—— with *p*——, *g*—— with *v*——.

Or, *He is now become quite blind, he cannot even diſtinguiſh light from darkneſs.* The laſt three words may be wrote as in the third mark, No. 25.

Or again, *If we conſider, that without health we cannot enjoy any of thoſe pleaſures which riches can procure; what man, that eſtimates things according to their reality, rather than their appearance, would not prefer* HEALTH TO RICHES; or thus, *if he had it in his option, would not rather*

*ther chuſe* HEALTH THAN RICHES; or, *would not chuſe* HEALTH BEFORE RICHES. The three ſeveral expreſſions will be eaſily diſtinguiſhed, though wrote all in the ſame manner, No. 26.

RULE VI. The ſubſtantive point, placed before a ſingle conſonant mark, denotes, that the ſubſtantive repreſented by it is to be repeated, with ſome intervening prepoſition, as *after*, *to*, *by*; as for example, *day after day*, *time to time*, No. 27.

RULE VII. The ſubſtantive, adjective, or adverb point, placed before two or more conſonant marks joined together, denotes two or more ſubſtantives, adjectives, or adverbs reſpectively, of which thoſe marks are the firſt conſonants, and alſo that they are connected by a conjunction.

As for example, *Our bleſſed* LORD AND SAVIOUR *Jeſus Chriſt*, *by his* DEATH AND PASSION, *made a ſufficient* SATISFACTION AND ATONEMENT *for the ſins of the whole world*;—*Lord and Saviour*, *death and paſſion*, *ſatisfaction and atonement*, being wrote as in No. 28.

Or further, *The precepts both of* NATURAL AND REVEALED *religion forbid us to do our neighbours any injury*; example firſt, No. 29. Here the point ſhows, that both *n* and *r* are adjectives; and the word *religion*, to which they are connected, will immediately ſuggeſt the words *natural and revealed*.

Or, to add one other inſtance, *What doth the Lord thy God require of thee*, *but to live* SOBERLY,

LY, RIGHTEOUSLY, AND GODLY, *in this preſent world?* example ſecond, No. 29. Here it appears, by the prefixed point, that *ſ*, *r*, and *g*, muſt all be adverbs, and conſequently that there is nearly as much expreſſed as if the ſame ſentence had been written in long-hand after this manner, viz. *What doth the Lord thy God require of thee, but to live ſ——ly, r——ly, and g——ly in this preſent world?* which ſurely would give very little trouble to fill up with the words *ſoberly, righteouſly, and godly.*

Thus any ſeries of ſubſtantives, adjectives, or adverbs, may be expreſſed by their firſt conſonants joined together with the proper point prefixed. But we muſt not indulge ourſelves in doing this at all adventures. It is only to be done in ſuch inſtances, wherein the commonneſs of the phraſe, or the nature of the ſubject, points out the words ſignified by thoſe letters; or when the words, ſo briefly deſcribed, are ſuch, that no other can be inſerted in their ſtead conſiſtently with the ſenſe of the paſſage.

When great diſpatch is required, as in the caſe of following a ſpeaker, all omiſſions are allowable, which can afterwards be ſupplied by a careful attention to the idiom of the language, and to the connection of the contracted words with thoſe which precede or follow them. And it may not be improper to obſerve, that greater or leſs liberties of contracting may be taken, in proportion

portion as the ſpeaker is more or leſs accurate in his language. For it is certain, that any contractions, where the ſtyle is clear and regular, may be more eaſily decyphered, than where it is confuſed and embaraſſed. It may happen, indeed, ſometimes, that the words ſignified by ſuch contractions will not occur at firſt ſight; but a little thought will diſcover them; and the reader will find, that an attention of this ſort will very agreeably and inſenſibly lead him into a more perfect knowledge of the idiom of his own language.

RULE VIII. Many long words may be, and frequently are, expreſſed in common writing by their firſt ſyllable only, with a mark to ſhew that ſomething is wanting, as *mult*——for *multitude*, *cor*——for *correſpondence*. So in ſhort-hand, long words, eſpecially thoſe in which the marks for the conſonants will not join neatly, may be denoted by their firſt ſyllable, with as many points annexed as there are ſyllables wanting; as, *multitude*, *correſpondence* *, No 30. And when great diſpatch is required, the points may be omitted, eſpecially if the words do not begin with prepoſitions; as, *ſignification*, *difficulty*, *negligence*, No 31.

RULE IX. The power given to the conſonant marks of repreſenting prepoſitions and terminations,

* When one ſyllable only is wanting, a point cannot be uſed to expreſs it; for a point ſo placed muſt denote a vowel.

tions, will enable us to write great numbers of long words after a very expeditious manner; for words beginning with prepoſitions may be denoted by their reſpective prepoſitions, together with the next conſonant and vowel; and oftentimes with the next conſonant only, adding to it the ſubſtantive, adjective, or adverb point, when neceſſary. As for inſtance, the firſt example, No 32. expreſſes a word beginning with the two ſyllables *de-li*; and though there are many words which begin with thoſe ſyllables, as *deliberate*, *deliver*, *delicious*, &c. yet, if ſuch a ſentence as the following were to be written thus, *He was not haſty in his reſolution, but took time to deli—— about it*, the word *deliberate* would immediately occur to every one.

The trouble of inſerting the vowel may, in many inſtances, be ſaved, by beginning the conſonant from that point after the prepoſition in which that vowel ſhould be placed; as in example ſecond, No 32. the *m* beginning from the *u*'s place after the *t* ſhows, that the next vowel after *m* is *u*; and the mark therefore is equivalent to *tranſmu——*, which is a ſufficient deſcription of the word *tranſmutation.*

A few examples more will ſufficiently explain this rule: as, *recommend*, *recommendation*, *recommendatory*, No 33. *reſignation*, *reſolution*, *conſanguinity*, No 34. *conveniently*, *ſuperficially*, No 35.

The

The participles may be abbreviated after the ſame manner, by adding, inſtead of the points, the termination *ing* or *ed* to the latter conſonant mark; as *conſi——ing* for *conſidering*, *conſi——ed* for *conſidered*, No 36. Plate 13.

Words beginning with double or treble propoſitions may be written after the ſame manner; as, *miſinformation*, *repreſentation*, *miſrepreſentation*, No. 37. *incomprehenſibility*, example firſt, No. 38. The prepoſitions muſt always be joined together; and, if two conſonants begin the next ſyllable, the writing of them both will help to diſcover the remainder of the word; as *miſunderſtanding*, example ſecond, No. 38.

It muſt appear plainly to every one, upon the leaſt conſideration, that the words in the foregoing inſtances are abbreviated. There can therefore be no danger of miſtaking, for example, the mark No. 39. for ſome ſhort word, ſuch as *daily*, *duly*, &c. For, by our rule, the *d* disjoined always ſignifies the prepoſition *de:* Nor can it be a word conſiſting of the prepoſition *de* and the ſyllable *li* or *ly* only; for, if ſuch a word had occurred, it would have been ſooner written by joining the marks together, as No. 40. This way of writing therefore ſhows, that the word begins with the prepoſition *de*; that the next ſyllable is *li*; and that there are ſome other ſyllable, or ſyllables, wanting to complete it. Nor can the conſonants in thoſe examples in which the

the vowels were omitted, be miſtaken for terminations; as in this example, No 41. the *k* cannot be ſuppoſed to repreſent the termination *ical*; ſince it would be abſurd to think of deſcribing any word by its prepoſition and termination only: For, as the ſame prepoſition and termination are common to great numbers of words, they alone can never give a good deſcription of any particular one.

This way of reaſoning purſued will lead to the diſcovery of an eaſy and ſhort method of denoting the word *ſelf* and *ſelves*, which ſo frequently follow the pronouns. For, if a disjoined mark loſes its power of repreſenting a termination, by being placed cloſe after a prepoſition, the — muſt certainly loſe that of repreſenting *ſion* or *tion*, when placed cloſe after any of the pronouns, ſince they never admit of ſuch a termination. It muſt therefore, in that ſituation, denote only the conſonant *s* followed by that vowel from whoſe place in the line it is drawn; and conſequently the words *ſelf* and *ſelves* may be very commodiouſly repreſented by drawing the *s* from the *e*'s place, cloſe after any of the pronouns; as, *myſelf*, *itſelf*, *ourſelves*, *themſelves*, &c. No. 42. And, though the word *own* ſhould intervene, yet *ſelf* or *ſelves* may ſtill be ſignified in the ſame manner; as, *my own ſelf*, *his own ſelf*, &c. No. 43.

The words *what*, *who*, *whom*, *how*, &c. have very often the word *ſoever* added to them, which

may, for a reaſon ſimilar to the foregoing, be very aptly expreſſed by the *s* drawn from the place of *o*; as, *whatſoever*, *howſoever*, *whomſoever*, &c. No. 44.

RULE X. In like manner, words ending in any of the terminations marked in the preceding table of the alphahet, may be denoted by their firſt conſonant and vowel, together with the proper mark for its termination; as for example, *ar——ry* for *arbitrary*, *op——ity* for *opportunity*, *cu——ity* for *curioſity*, *lawfulneſs*, No. 45.

But it muſt be carefully obſerved, that the vowel, whether it precedes or follows the conſonant, muſt never be omitted; otherwiſe the conſonant might be taken for a prepoſition, and then this rule would interfere with the foregoing: Whereas its power of repreſenting a prepoſition is deſtroyed by the addition of the vowel, whilſt the ſingle disjoined mark, at the end, retains its power of repreſenting a termination. The word is therefore deſcribed by its beginning and termination, a vacancy being left in the middle to be ſupplied by the ſagacity of the reader.

RULE XI. It cannot have eſcaped the obſervation of any one who has conſidered the Engliſh language with any degree of attention, that words of different ſignifications govern, or require different prepoſitions; that words, for example, ſignifying *deſire*, *knowledge*, *ignorance*, &c. require the prepoſition *of*; that other words, importing

importing *mercy*, *compaſſion*, *dependence*, &c. require the prepoſition *upon*, *&c.* Care, therefore, being taken to write the prepoſitions plainly, the firſt conſonant only will in many inſtances be found to be ſufficiently deſcriptive of the words which require thoſe particular prepoſitions. For although there may be many words which begin with the ſame conſonant; yet all thoſe which do not require that particular prepoſition, are upon that account immediately excluded; and the remainder is by that means reduced to ſo few, that it will be eaſy to ſelect the proper one. In every one of the following ſentences (and many more of the like kind might be given) the letter *d* denotes a different word, *viz.* in *He was very d— of being thought rich*; *You may d—— upon my promiſe*; *I d—— from him in opinion: He d—— long about the choice of a patron, but at laſt reſolved to d—— his work to*, &c. &c. and yet by the help of the diſcriminating prepoſitions, the particular word proper to each place is eaſily diſcoverable.

A few inſtances will be ſufficient to give the learner a right notion of this method of abbreviation.

For example, in the following ſentences; *This* BELONGS *to me*; *He made ſome good* OBSERVATIONS *upon it*; *I want to* DISPOSE *of my houſe*; *He* AGREED *with me in opinion*;—the words *belongs*, *obſervations*, *diſpoſe*, *agreed*, may be written as in No 46. And in theſe ſentences, *There*

*was*

*was not the leaſt* DIFFERENCE *between us*; *We muſt take particular care to* GUARD *againſt ſuch paſſions as we find ourſelves moſt* LIABLE *to*; *As for his perſonal eſtate, he* DIVIDED *it amongſt all his children in equal ſhares*;—the words *difference*, *guard*, *liable* and *divided*, may be wrote as in No 47.

And it may be further obſerved, that as few Engliſh words end with the ſyllable *to*, the prepoſition *to* may for that reaſon be joined to the preceding word, which was directed to be ſignified by its firſt conſonant only. For the unuſualneſs of the ending will be a ſufficient hint, that the mark repreſents not one, but two words; and, therefore, *This belongs to me*, may be written as in example firſt, No 48. and *liable to*, *ſatisfactory to*, and *ſubject to*, may be wrote as in the ſecond, third, and fourth examples, the — in this laſt inſtance being made at the bottom of the line, to ſhow that the vowel following it is *u*. But, if any one finds it difficult to write the *t* upwards, he may, whenever it is neceſſary, diſtinguiſh the two laſt inſtances from one another, by inſerting the *u*, and write *ſubject to* as in No 49.

Other prepoſitions, which are denoted in the table of the alphabet by a ſingle conſonant, may, in like manner, be joined to the preceding word; as in the example, *He made ſome good obſervations upon it*,—*obſervations upon* may be written as in No 50. Nor will there be any great danger of

of the reader's being puzzled by miſtaking ſuch like marks for ſingle words; for it will not often happen that the two conſonants of which they are compoſed will form any word, ſcarcely ever that they will form ſuch a word as will ſuit the place and agree with the context. A little cuſtom will therefore ſoon ſuggeſt to the learner, that the two marks muſt denote two words; the latter of which, being repreſented in his ſhort-hand alphabet by the latter conſonant mark, muſt for that reaſon immediately occur to him.

RULE XII. Prepoſitions generally require after them either a noun, or a pronoun. The pronouns being few in number, and in all languages uſed as ſubſtitutes for nouns, muſt occur very frequently, and by that means ſoon become familiar to the learner; the pronoun, for that reaſon, may be joined to the prepoſition, without danger of creating any difficulty to the reader.

As for example, in theſe ſentences, *He gave it to me*, *He left it to my*, *to us*, *to you*, *to our*, *to your*, the words *to me*, *to my*, *to us*, *to you*, *to our*, *to your*, may be wrote as in No 51. The *h*, *th*, or *wh*, may, for the ſake of joining, be dropped in the pronouns, which begin with thoſe letters, as *his*, *this*, *whom*, &c. and we may write *to his* as in example firſt, No 52. and *to this* as in example ſecond; diſtinguiſhing, if it ever ſhould be thought neceſſary, *his* from *this*, by the different ſituation of the point; *to her* and *to their*, as in example

example third: for a diſtinction between them cannot be made, as was done in the inſtance before, by the different placing of the point; but the ſenſe of the paſſage will eaſily ſhow which it muſt be. *To whom*, *to thoſe*, or *to whoſe*, *to which*, *to each*, may be wrote as in the firſt four examples, No 53. *It was not* IN MY *power*; *in my*, as in the fifth example. *It was thrown* UNDER MY *feet*, *He came and dwelt* AMONGST US, *You may be depend* UPON ME; the words *under my*, *amongſt us*, *upon me*, as in No 54.

This rule is not to be reſtrained to thoſe prepoſitions only which are denoted in the table of the alphabet by a ſingle conſonant, as *among*, *under*, *upon*, &c. but may be extended to others, which muſt, in that caſe be repreſented by their firſt conſonant, and be joined to the pronoun: as, *he did it* WITH MY *conſent*, writing *with my* as in No 54. This will occaſion no ambiguity, ſince *w* cannot in this place ſignify the word *will*; for ſuch a ſentence as, *he did it will my conſent*, would be neither ſenſe nor grammar. Its ſituation in the ſentence, and connection with the pronominal adjective *my*, plainly mark that it muſt be ſome prepoſition which begins with *w*.

And though ſeveral prepoſitions ſhould begin with the ſame conſonant, yet they may be written in this manner, provided that the preceding or following words be ſuch as will ſerve to diſtinguiſh them, and ſhew which of them muſt needs

there

there be meant; as in the following examples: *He came privately and took it away* WITHOUT MY *knowledge*; *To ſtoop to ſo mean an action was much* BENEATH HIS *dignity*; *It is* BEYOND MY *reach*. *Without my* may be written as *with my*, No 55. and the words *beneath his*, *beyond my*, as in No 56. *Above* may be diſtinguiſhed from *beyond*, by prefixing the initial vowel. Thus, in the following ſentence, *it is* ABOVE MY *comprehenſion*, *above my* may be wrote as in example firſt, No 57. and *between them*, *before my*, *behind my*, in theſe ſentences, *They divided it equally* BETWEEN THEM, *He had the impudence to do it* BEFORE MY *face*, *He did it ſlyly* BEHIND MY *back*, may be wrote as in the three laſt examples, No 57.

But it is to be noted here, that, when the prepoſitions themſelves are abbreviated, as in theſe inſtances above, they cannot help to explain other words, as they did in thoſe mentioned in the beginning of the 11th Rule, in which they were directed to be written plainly; for it would be very puzzling indeed, if that word, which was to aſſiſt in explaining others, wanted explanation itſelf.

RULE XIII. After the learner has, by a little practice, made the laſt method of abbreviation familiar to himſelf, he may venture to combine it with the foregoing, and join the preceding word, the prepoſition, and pronoun altogether; and as he had learned before to write *belongs to*,

as

as in example firſt, No 58. and as the laſt rule taught him to write *to me* as in example ſecond, he may now join them altogether, and write *belongs to me, extends to us, agreed with me, depend upon me*, as in No 59.; *obſervations upon this*, as in example firſt, No 60.; and *rebellion againſt his, diſſenſions amongſt his*, as in the two following ſentences, *He was a notorious traitor, and caught in actual* REBELLION AGAINST HIS *Majeſty, He was an ill natured man, and always endeavouring to ſow* DISSENSIONS AMONGST HIS *neighbours*, may be wrote as in No 60.

When a pronoun, or a prepoſition and pronoun, follow the verb, and are themſelves followed by a prepoſition and pronominal adjective, they may all be joined together; as, *I* CONGRATULATED HIM UPON HIS, *&c. I* CONDOLED WITH HIM UPON HIS, No 61.

The words *ſome, any, none, which, each, both*, &c. followed by a prepoſition and pronoun, may, agreeably to this rule, be denoted by their firſt conſonants, and be joined to the prepoſition and pronoun; as, *ſome of them, any of us, none of them*, No 62. *both of them, which of them, each of them*, No 63. The firſt dot is inſerted to diſtinguiſh the words from another which begin with the ſame conſonant; as, *none, any*, &c. The latter dot muſt never be omitted, as it is the appointed

pointed way of writing the pronouns when joined to prepoſitions; as, *of them*, No 64.

RULE XIV. After the learner has for ſome time accuſtomed himſelf to the foregoing rule, he may advance a ſtep further, and join the adverbs preceding the verbs, and the ſubſtantives following the pronominal adjectives, to the verbs and adjectives reſpectively, denoting both the adverbs and ſubſtantives by their firſt conſonants, or at moſt by their firſt conſonants and vowels; as for example, in this ſentence, *you may* SAFELY DEPEND UPON MY WORD, *ſafely depend upon my word* may ſtand as in No 65. *

Difficult as this may ſeem to a beginner, yet habit, and a little reflection upon the nature of our language, will quickly render it eaſy to him. His own experince will ſoon convince him, that contractions, when judiciouſly made, may be more certainly and eaſily read than the unexperienced are apt to imagine. It may, perhaps, for a while at the firſt, be a good method to take the contractions to pieces, writing in long-hand exactly what is given in ſhort-hand. The foregoing contraction ſo tranſcribed would ſtand thus, *you may ſa—— d—— upon my w——*. Here the prepoſition *upon* will ſoon ſuggeſt, that the preceding word, beginning with the conſonant *d*,



* As a ſubſtantive muſt neceſſarily follow the adjective *my*, there was no occaſion to place the point at the end of the *w* to ſhow that it was one.

muſt be *depend*; and the word denoted by its initial letters *ſa*, coming betwixt the auxiliary *may*, and the verb *depend*, is by its ſituation, according to the uſual arrangement of words in our language, plainly enough marked to be an adverb; ſo that it is nearly the ſame as if it had been written thus, *You may ſa——ly depend upon my w——*, which is too plain a deſcription to prove a ſtumbling-block to any attentive reader.

RULE XV. Many common phraſes, formed by a ſubſtantive preceded by the prepoſitions *with*, *without*, *in*, &c. and followed by *to*, *of*, &c. may be very conveniently contracted; as, *with regard*, *reſpect*, *or reference to*, No 66. example firſt. *He baſely broke his promiſe*, WITHOUT ANY REGARD TO HIS *honour*; *without any regard to his*, as in example ſecond; *in relation to*, as in the third example; *in order to*, *in conſequence*, *compariſon*, *or conſideration of*, *in obedience to your*, No 67.; *by reaſon of his*, *by virtue of his*, No 68. In this laſt inſtance, the proportionably little *b* ſhows, that the mark following it is to be divided into two letters; *upon account of*, *in the power of*, No 69.

RULE XVI. Common adverbial phraſes are, in like manner, often denoted by their initial conſonants joined together; as, *for the future*, *at the ſame time*, *at preſent*, *in this manner*, No 70.; *in like manner*, *in a great meaſure*, *in the ſame manner*, No 71.; *in ſo much that*, *ſo much the more*,

*more, in the mean time*, No 72.; *in general, in particular*, No 73.

And when the proportion of equality is expreſſed by *ſo——as*, or *as——as*, with ſome one word intervening, they may all be joined together; as, *ſo much as, as much as, as well as, as long as, as good, or as great as*, &c. No 74.

RULE XVII. The contractions which may be made when *it is* or *it was* are followed by an adjective, and *to* or *that*, are ſo numerous, that we muſt content ourſelves with giving a few of the moſt uſual; as, *it is impoſſible to, it was unneceſſary to, it is contrary to*, No 75.; *it is according to, it is obſervable that, it is evident that, it is not to be ſuppoſed that*, &c. No. 76.

The above methods of abbreviation are ſuch as are of moſt common uſe and practice; and tho' they are not many in number, yet they are very extenſive in their application; for a ſentence can ſcarce occur in which ſome one or other of them will not find a place. But yet we are far from pretending to have exhauſted the ſubject. An accurate and aſſiduous attention to the nature and idiom of our language may ſuggeſt others as uſeful and extenſive as theſe. Proper care being taken to lay a right foundation, the legible ways of contracting will increaſe, in proportion to the writer's want of them. The more he writes, the more conciſely he may venture to write, and yet be able to read his contractions with eaſe; provided

provided that he builds them upon ſome known particularity of our language; for which reaſon we have been more ſolicitous to explain the grounds of our rules, than curious in the choice, or copious in the number of examples. But, that the learner may have all the aſſiſtance neceſſary, we have furniſhed him with ſpecimens, where he will find his rules exemplified.

But it may not be amiſs, before we conclude, to make a remark or two upon abbreviations in general.—Firſt, that in all the various ways that can be taken of contracting, (that is of deſcribing words by ſome ſhorter method than that of writing all the conſonants of which they conſiſt,) care muſt be taken, when the contraction conſiſts of two or more words joined together, that no one word of it be repreſented by more than one character; and ſecondly, that the whole mark, by ſome means or other, if poſſible, be ſhown to be a contraction, as it has been generally done in the foregoing pages, either by the inſertion of points in the middle of the marks, as No 77. (Plate XIII.) for *ſome of them;* (which, when diſpatch is required, is never practiſed to denote vowels in the middle of words;) or by the unuſual ending of the mark, as No 78. for *liable to, appears that;* for few words (ſince the termination *eth*, ſo frequent in ſcripture-language, is now almoſt grown obſolete) end in *th*; or by the unuſual joining of the marks, as, *in the, it is,* &c.

&c. No 7. Otherwiſe the reader might be puzzled in hunting for ſome one word conſiſting of the letters which are written: Whereas, if he knows it to be a contraction, he is not bewildered in his reſearches, but is at firſt directed the right road, and has nothing to do but to ſearch after ſome word for every character, which will ſuit the deſcription, and agree with the context.

And when contractions are judiciouſly made, the learner, provided he will obſerve the caution already given, (and which cannot be too often repeated,) of beginning with the eaſieſt, and of not proceeding to a ſecond, until the firſt is become familiar, will certainly find the difficulty of decyphering them leſſen every day.

But, ſuppoſing that there was more difficulty in the reading of them; yet, provided that they may be certainly made out by due attention to the ſubject treated upon, and the idiom of the language, it will be ſufficient; for the learner muſt be advertiſed, that theſe contractions are not deſigned to be taught as the common ſtandard method of writing ſhort-hand upon all occaſions.—That method which was taught in the firſt part, and which will be as eaſily read, upon a little practice, as common long-hand, will be found ſufficiently ſhort for all common purpoſes; and it ſhould therefore be kept to when very great diſpatch is not required.

Inventors

Inventors of ſhort-hand have generally introduced into their ſyſtems a multitude of *arbitrary* marks, to ſignify particular words and phraſes, which are often choſen rather upon account of their length than their frequent occurrence. The injudicious application of theſe arbitrary marks is not the only objection againſt them. They are not only burdenſome to the memory, and tedious and difficult to be learned, but are forgot even by the writer himſelf, unleſs he ſits down to decypher immediately whilſt every thing is freſh in his memory.

Theſe objections lie not againſt the above methods of abbreviation. They burden the memory with no new and arbitrary marks, and with but few rules for the extention of the powers of the alphabetical characters; and the rules are ſo general, and applicable to ſuch a multitude of caſes perpetually occurring, that they give this ſyſtem the advantage, even in point of expedition, over arbitrary marks, and at the ſame time leave the writing legible, whatever length of time intervenes, not only to the writer himſelf, but alſo to every fellow-practiſer of the ſame method.

APPENDIX.

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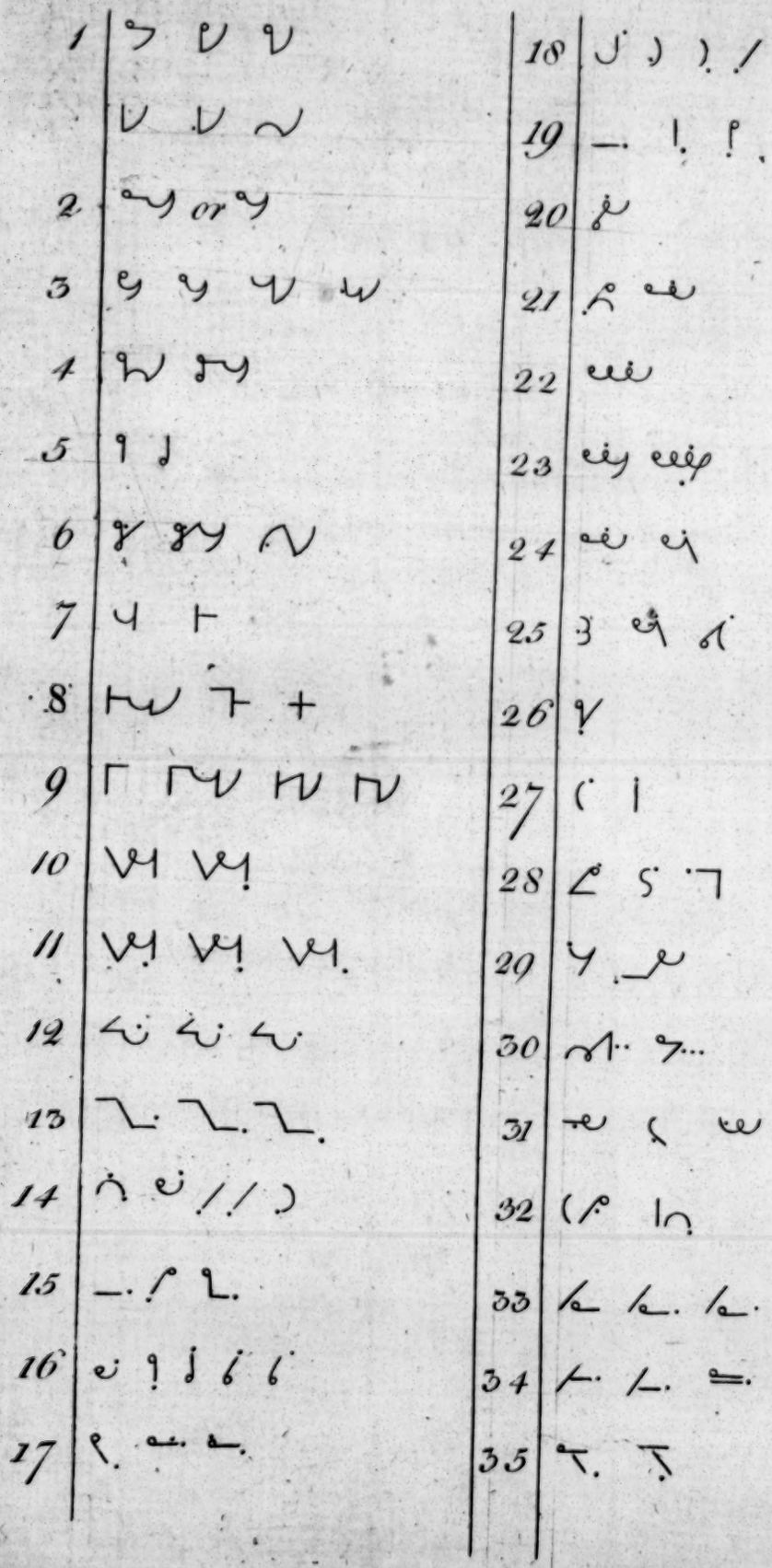
# Rules of Abbreviation,

## Part II.



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BRITISH MUSEUM
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BRITISH MUSEUM
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*Part of D^r. Sherlock B^p. of Londons 1^st. Sermon with a few of the most common Contractions.*

1
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BRITISH MUSEUM
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MAY

## The same sermon more contracted.

## STATE TRIALS. Vol. V. Page 605.

*Proceedings on an Habeas Corpus upon the Commitment (by Sir W. Trumbull Secretary of state) of Kendal and Roe for high Treason*

BRITISH MUSEUM
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1
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BRITISH MUSEUM
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Jn.° Cowan sculpsit

BRITISH MUSEUM
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# APPENDIX.

## Dr CULLEN's *Lecture, as on Plates 3d and 4th.*

THE theory of the gout is not only to me intereſting in itſelf, but is of importance to our general pathology, as we have occaſion, at the ſame time, to diſcuſs our moſt fundamental propoſition. I have told you, that the more general opinion is, that the gout depends upon a certain matter introduced probably by the aliment, or generated in the body in conſequence of ſome fault in the concoction, and that this exiſting in the ſyſtem, produced the phænomena that appear in the whole, or particular parts of it. This opinion has been ſo univerſal among phyſicians, and been ſo tenaciouſly inherent in their minds, that I thought it abſolutely neceſſary to ſay what doubts may be raiſed concerning it. I have founded them upon this conſideration; 1ſt, That no direct evidence appears of any ſuch matter, from any analyſis of the blood, nor any ſuch from our examination of the part affected, as the cauſe of the diſeaſe; and I conclude, that there is no ſuch evidence, from the great variety of opinions concerning the nature of this matter; for, had there been any evidence with regard to any particular part, it would have ſet aſide the whole variety. 2dly, It is obviouſly and plainly an inference of reaſoning; it has ariſen merely from pain and tumour ariſing, which they could only refer to ſome acrid matter ſtimulating or obſtructing the veſſels; but I ſay, that there is nothing ſo obvious as that pain and tumour may ariſe from the change in the ſtate of the motions in the ſyſtem, and do ariſe very often without any morbific matter preſent; and though, from the phænomena, we can form no concluſion in favour of one opinion or other, and it muſt ſtill remain a queſtion of fact, whether it is owing to the one or other cauſe, from the ſequel I hope it will appear, that the latter is the much more probable. I ſaid, two other arguments have been employed in favour of this morbific matter. 1ſt, That the diſeaſe is hereditary,

reditary, and these hereditary diseases often depend upon a ferment communicated from the parent to the offspring, which is true; but that is as an occurrence; and, upon the other hand, we know more certainly that hereditary diseases depend upon a temperament, like the external visage, transmitted from the parent to the offspring, of which I will say more immediately. In the last place, it has been alledged to be a contagious disease; and, if so, it must be connected with a peculiar matter: But this is not fact, at least there is not yet any proper evidence of its being contagious, or so connected; and I thus conclude from observing, that both wives and servants, in their attendance upon gouty persons, have such communications as must expose them to such contagion, if any such existed; but, so far as we have had an opportunity of observing (Plate 4.), as no such effect has followed such attendance, I say it is not a contagious disease. These are the doubts and arguments that have been used; and there are, on the other hand, considerations that seem to disprove it, at least allow me to reject it as an hypothesis, if it does not readily and easily solve the phænomena; and, as far as I can perceive, it does not solve the phænomena of any kind; and there are very few to which it will apply, except upon such reasoning as is rejected. There is one occurrence in the gout, and that is the frequent translation of the disease. I have shown you, that among the last writers upon this subject, they have acknowledged that this has not been explained, nor do they see how it can be explained. It must remain, upon this hypothesis, an absolute mystery, and there is not the least shew of probability with regard to the sudden reabsorption and translation of a peculiar matter. But, on the other hand, we know that motion, without translation of matter, can be communicated from any one part to another, and I can produce a great variety of phænomena, and I believe that the circumstances of the gout can, with some probability, be explained upon this supposition.

Dr

Dr MONRO's *Lecture, as on Plates 4th and 5th.*

AS I propoſe not only to demonſtrate to you the ſtructure of the body, but to explain the uſe of the ſeveral organs, and point out many of the changes produced by diſeaſe, and on all occaſions to conſider this courſe as a foundation of practice, I mentioned the neceſſity, before entering with accuracy on the particular parts, of giving to beginners a general idea of the œconomy, from the dependence which each part has upon another, and upon the whole. You ſurely underſtand me, that at preſent I am only to attempt a ſuperficial explanation, and I ſhall take very little pains in demonſtrating the ſeveral facts; a general notion of them will be ſufficient. And inſtead of anxiouſly ſeeking out the method I would conſider as the beſt for a ſyſtem of phyſiology, I ſhall follow one that is perfectly ſimple, to which we are directed by nature herſelf, and which leads us to overlook the circumſtances of ſmaller importance, and to direct our attention ſolely to general views.

The vegetable kingdom, in common with the animal, live, grow, and, I would venture to alledge, in a certain degree feel. But you have all ſurely obſerved, that every animal without external impulſe, ſpontaneouſly performs certain motions, and theſe are done with a wiſe and uſeful purpoſe; the animal wills, or, by volition, is diſtinguiſhed from the vegetable; ſo to the body is connected a principle of life ſuperior to matter.

The bodies of animals, conſiſting of a mixture and due proportion of fluid and of ſolid parts, theſe muſt be in a conſtant ſtate of change; the fluids diſperſe, the ſolids are abraded; ſo, to prolong life, we perceive the neceſſity of a freſh ſupply being frequently, or continually made. And to enable the animal to attain what is neceſſary for it, it muſt be provided with the organs we call organs of ſenſe, of which we poſſeſs five. And whether from our ignorance, our not being able to conceive any additional ſenſe, or that other animals do not poſſeſs it, this ſeems to be the greateſt number of ſenſes in the animal kingdom; and in many animals there is a defect of ſome. Next, that the animal may reach what

it perceives and judges to be uſeful to it (for few are ſo happily ſituated as to receive their nouriſhment from the ſurrounding element) it is neceſſary that the animal ſhould poſſeſs the locomotive power, ſhould be able to tranſport its body from place to place. And to fit it for this, we muſt ſuppoſe the neceſſity of a baſis, a ſomewhat to ſupport and give attachment to the ſofter parts of the body, which in our frame we call the bone. And in order to eaſe us of the unneceſſary load of bone, and to extend the ſurface of it ſufficiently for the connection of the other organs, the bones are made hollow. I ſhall have occaſion to obſerve more partilarly afterwards, that by this means the bones are alſo rendered ſtronger. But the evident purpoſe is, that a broader baſis is given, we reſt upon a larger ſurface, and there is more room for the attachment of the ſofter organs. Next, it is neceſſary that the bone or baſis ſhould be divided into a great number of parts, or we obſerve a great aſſemblage of bones, which are fitted to each other, that our motions may be quick and various, and in all uſeful directions.

Next, where the joints are placed, and where the bones are intended for play upon each other, it is neceſſary that a ſofter ſubſtance ſhould be interpoſed, to prevent the too great friction; hence when you examine the end of a bone in a recent ſubject, you find it tipped with a ſofter matter, what you know under the name of cartilage or griſtle. If the motion of the part in a great degree be dangerous, if conſiderable flexion cannot be made with ſafety, we find that the bones are immediately tied together by the cartilage, as in a young ſubject, where the cartilage connects the ribs to the breaſt-bone, or in this way the ſeveral pieces of the back are connected to each other; but, if a larger degree of motion be ſafe, and at the ſame time neceſſary and convenient, we find the bones merely tipped with cartilage.

## *The* CAPTIVE, *from* STERNE'S SENTMENTAL JOURNEY, *as on Plate 6th.*

### PARIS.

THE bird in his cage purſued me into my room; I ſat down cloſe to my table, and leaning my head upon my hand, I began to figure to myſelf the miſeries of confinement. I was in a right frame for it, and ſo I gave full ſcope to my imagination.

I was going to begin with the millions of my fellow-creatures, born to no inheritance but ſlavery; but finding, however affecting the picture was, that I could not bring it near me, and that the multitude of ſad groups in it did but diſtract me—

—I took a ſingle captive, and having firſt ſhut him up in his dungeon, I then looked through the twilight of his grated door to take his picture.

I beheld his body half waſted away with long expectation and confinement, and felt what kind of ſickneſs of the heart it was which ariſes from hope deferred. Upon looking nearer, I ſaw him pale and feveriſh: In thirty years the weſtern breeze had not once fann'd his blood—he had ſeen no ſun, no moon in all that time—nor had the voice of friend or kinſman breathed through his lattice:—His children—

But here my heart began to bleed—and I was forced to go on with another part of the portrait.

He was ſitting upon the ground upon a little ſtraw, in the furtheſt corner of his dungeon, which was alternately his chair and bed: A little calendar of ſmall ſticks were laid at the head, notch'd all over with the diſmal days and nights he had paſſed there—he had one of theſe little ſticks in his hand, and with a ruſty nail he was etching another day of miſery to add to the heap. As I darkened the little light he had, he lifted up a hopeleſs eye towards the door, then caſt it down—ſhook his head, and went on with his work of affliction. I heard his chains upon his legs, as he turned his body to lay his little ſtick upon the bundle—He gave a deep ſigh—I ſaw the iron enter into his ſoul—I burſt into tears—

I could not ſuſtain the picture of confinement which my fancy had drawn—I ſtarted up from my chair, and calling Le Fleur, I bid him beſpeak me a *remiſe*, and have it ready at the door of the hotel by nine in the morning.

—I'll go directly, ſaid I myſelf to Monſieur Le Duc de Choiſeul.

Le Fleur would have put me to bed; but not willing he ſhould ſee any thing upon my cheek which would coſt the honeſt fellow a heart-ach—I told him I would go to bed by myſelf—and bid him go do the ſame.

SPECTATOR, Vol. viii. No 586. *as on Plate 8th.*

BY the laſt poſt I received the following letter, which is built upon a thought that is new, and very well carried on; for which reaſons I ſhall give it to the public without alteration, addition, or amendment.

*S I R,*

'IT was a good piece of advice which *Pythagoras* gave to his ſcholars: That every night before they ſlept they ſhould examine what they had been doing that day, and ſo diſcover what actions were worthy of purſuit to-morrow, and what little vices were to be prevented from ſlipping unawares into a habit. If I might ſecond the philoſopher's advice, it ſhould be mine, that, in a morning before my ſcholar roſe, he ſhould conſider what he had been about that night, and with the ſame ſtrictneſs, as if the condition he has believed himſelf to be in, was real. Such a ſcrutiny into the actions of his fancy muſt be of conſiderable advantage, for this reaſon, becauſe the circumſtances which a man imagines himſelf in during ſleep, are generally ſuch as intirely favour his inclinations good or bad, and give him imaginary opportunities of purſuing them to the utmoſt; ſo that his temper will lie fairly open to his view while he conſiders how it is moved when free from thoſe conſtraints which the accidents of real life put it under. Dreams are certainly the reſult of our waking thoughts, and our daily hopes and fears are what give the mind ſuch a nimb

'nimble reliſhes of pleaſure, and ſuch ſevere touches of pain
'in its midnight rambles. A man that murders his enemy,
'or deſerts his friend in a dream, had need to guard his
'temper againſt revenge and ingratitude, and take heed that
'he be not tempted to do a vile thing in the purſuit of falſe,
'or the neglect of true, honour. For my part, I ſeldom re-
'ceive a benefit, but in a night or two's time I make moſt noble
'returns for it; which, though my benefactor is not a whit
'the better for, yet it pleaſes me to think that it was from a
'principle of gratitude in me, that my mind was ſuſceptible
'of ſuch generous tranſport while I thought myſelf repaying
'the kindneſs of my friend: And I have often been ready
'to beg pardon, inſtead of returning an injury, after con-
'ſidering that when the offender was in my power I had
'carried my reſentments much too far.

'I think it has been obſerved in the courſe of your papers,
'how much one's happineſs or miſery may depend upon the
'imagination: Of which truth thoſe ſtrange workings of
'fancy in ſleep are no inconſiderable inſtances; ſo that not
'only the advantage a man has of making diſcoveries of
'himſelf, but a regard to his own eaſe or diſquiet, may in-
'duce him to accept of my advice. Such as are willing to
'comply with it, I ſhall put into a way of doing it with
'pleaſure, by obſerving only one maxim which I ſhall give
'them, *viz. To go to bed with a mind intirely free from paſ-*
'*ſion, and a body clear of the leaſt intemperance.*

'They indeed who can ſink into ſleep with their thoughts
'leſs calm or innocent than they ſhould be, do but plunge
'themſelves into ſcenes of guilt and miſery; or they who
'are willing to purchaſe any midnight diſquietudes for the
'ſatisfaction of a full meal, or a ſkinful of wine; theſe I
'have nothing to ſay to, as not knowing how to invite them
'to reflections full of ſhame and horror: But thoſe that will
'obſerve this rule, I promiſe them they ſhall awake into
'health and chearfulneſs, and be capable of recounting with
'delight thoſe glorious moments, wherein the mind has been
'indulging itſelf in ſuch luxury of thought, ſuch noble hurry
'of imagination. Suppoſe a man's going ſupperleſs to bed
'ſhould introduce him to the table of ſome great prince or

'other

'other, where he ſhall be entertained with the nobleſt marks 'of honour and plenty, and do ſo much buſineſs after, that he 'ſhall riſe with as good a ſtomach to his breakfaſt as if he had 'faſted all night long; or ſuppoſe he ſhould ſee his deareſt 'friends remain all night in great diſtreſſes, which he ſhould 'inſtantly have diſengaged them from, could he have been 'content to have gone to bed without the other bottle? Believe 'me theſe effects of fancy are no contemptible conſequences 'of commanding or indulging one's appetite.

'I forbear recommending my advice upon many other ac-'counts until I hear how you and your readers reliſh what I 'have already ſaid; among whom, if there be any that may 'pretend it is uſeleſs to them, becauſe they never dream at 'all, there may be others perhaps, who do little elſe all day 'long. Were every one as ſenſible as I am of what happens 'to him in his ſleep, it would be no diſpute whether we paſs 'ſo conſiderable a portion of our time in the condition of 'ſtocks and ſtones, or whether the ſoul were not perpetually at 'work upon the principle of thought. However, it is an honeſt 'endeavour of mine to perſuade my countrymen to reap ſome 'advantage from ſo many unregarded hours, and as ſuch you 'will encourage it.

'I ſhall conclude with giving you a ſketch or two of my 'way of proceeding.

'If I have any buſineſs of conſequence to do to-morrow, 'I am ſcarce dropt aſleep to-night, but I am in the midſt of 'it, and when awake I conſider the whole proceſſion of the 'affair, and get the advantage of the next day's experience 'before the ſun has riſen upon it.

'There is ſcarce a great poſt but what I have ſome time or 'other been in; but my behaviour while I was maſter of a 'college, pleaſes me ſo well, that whenever there is a pro-'vince of that nature vacant, I intend to ſtep in as ſoon as I 'can.

'I have done many things that would not paſs examina-'tion, when I have had the art of flying or being inviſible; 'for which reaſon I am glad I am not poſſeſſed of thoſe ex-'traordinary qualities.

'Laſtly,

'Laſtly, Mr SPECTATOR, I have been a great correſpon-
'dent of your's, and have read many of my letters in your
'paper which I never wrote you. If you have a mind I ſhould
'really be ſo, I have got a parcel of viſions and other miſcel-
'lanies in my noctuary, which I ſhall ſend to enrich your
'paper on proper occaſions.

*Oxford, Aug.* *I am*, &c.

John Shallow."

## Dr SHERLOCK'S SERMON, *as on Plates 14th, 15th, 16th and 17th.*

### JOHN vi. 67, 68, 69.

*Then ſaid Jeſus unto the twelve, Will ye alſo go away? Then Simon Peter anſwered him, Lord, to whom ſhall we go? thou haſt the words of eternal life. And we believe, and are ſure, that thou art that Chriſt, the Son of the living God.*

IN the foregoing part of this chapter we read, that the doctrine of our Saviour had given ſuch offence to his hearers, that many even of his diſciples went back, and walked no more with him: Upon which occaſion our Saviour put this queſtion to the twelve, *Will ye alſo go away?* To which St Peter, in the name of all, made anſwer, 'Lord, to whom 'ſhall we go? thou haſt the words of eternal life. And we 'believe, and are ſure, that thou art that Chriſt, the Son of 'the living God.' In this anſwer there are three things expreſſed, or implied, as the ground of their conſtancy and adherence to Chriſt.

I. The firſt is, The miſerable condition they ſhould be in, if they did forſake him, having no other in whom they could truſt: *Lord, to whom ſhall we go?*

II. The ſecond is, The excellency of his religion, and the certain means it afforded of obtaining that which is the great end of religion, a bleſſed life after this: *Thou haſt the words of eternal life.*

III. The

III. The third is, the authority and divine commiſſion of Chriſt, upon which their faith and confidence were built: *We believe, and are ſure, that thou art that Chriſt, the Son of the living God.* To believe, becauſe we have ſufficient reaſon to determine our belief, is a rational faith; and this is what is meant in the word ἐγνωκαμεν, *we believe*, becauſe we have, from the things we have heard and ſeen of you, determined with ourſelves, 'That thou art the Chriſt, the Son of 'the living God.'

Theſe three reaſons, which St Peter gives for adherence to Chriſt, refer to as many general principles or maxims:

As, firſt, That religion, the only means by which men can arrive at true happineſs, by which they can attain to the laſt perfection and dignity of their nature, does not, in the preſent circumſtances of the world, depend on human reaſonings or inventions: For, was this the caſe, we need not to go from home for religion, or to ſeek farther than our own breaſt for the means of reconciling ourſelves to God, and obtaining his favour, and, in conſequence of it, life eternal. Upon ſuch ſuppoſition, St Peter argued very weakly, in ſaying, *To whom ſhall we go?* for to whom need they go to learn that which they were well able to teach themſelves?

The ſecond principle referred to is, That the great end of religion is future happineſs; and conſequently the beſt religion is that which will moſt ſurely direct us to eternal life. Upon this ground St Peter prefers the goſpel of Chriſt, *Thou haſt the words of eternal life.*

The third thing is, That the authority and word of God is the only ſure foundation of religion, and the only reaſonable ground for us to build our hopes on. Thus St Peter accounts for his confidence in the religion which Chriſt taught; *We know, and are ſure, that thou art that Chriſt, the Son of the living God.*

In this ſtate of the caſe, the neceſſity of religion in general is ſuppoſed; and the only queſtion is, from what fountain we muſt derive it? The diſpute can only lie between natural and

and revealed religion: if nature be able to direct us, it will be hard to juſtify the wiſdom of God in giving us a revelation, ſince the revelation can only ſerve the ſame purpoſe which nature could well ſupply.

Since the light of the goſpel has ſhone throughout the world, nature has been much improving; we ſee many things clearly, many things which reaſon readily embraces, which, nevertheleſs, the world before was generally a ſtranger to. The goſpel has given us true notions of God and of ourſelves, right conceptions of his holineſs and purity, and of the nature of divine worſhip; it has taught us a religion, in the practice of which our preſent eaſe and comfort, and our hopes of future happineſs and glory, conſiſt; it has rooted out idolatry and ſuperſtition, and, by inſtructing us in the nature of God, and diſcovering to us his unity, his omnipreſence, and infinite knowledge, it has furniſhed us even with principles of reaſon, by which we reject and condemn the rites and ceremonies of heatheniſm and idolatry, and diſcover wherein the beauty and holineſs of divine worſhip conſiſt: for the nature of divine worſhip muſt be deduced from the nature of God; and it is impoſſible for men to pay a reaſonable ſervice to God, till they have juſt and reaſonable notions of him. But now, it ſeems, this is all become pure natural religion; and it is to our own reaſon and underſtanding that we are indebted for the notion of God, and of divine worſhip; and whatever elſe in religion is agreeable to our reaſon, is reckoned to proceed intirely from it: and, had the unbelievers of this age heard St Peter's piteous complaint, *Lord, to whom ſhall we go?* they would have bid him go to himſelf, and conſult his own reaſon, and there he ſhould find all that was worth finding in religion.

STATE TRIAL, *as on Plates 17th, 18th, 19th and 20th.*

SIR Bartholemew Shower. I am of counſel for theſe two priſoners: and what we deſire at preſent is only that they may be bailed; though perhaps we might preſs to have them diſcharged, and that upon good reaſon.

To induce your Lordſhip to bail them, I muſt beg your Lordſhip's pardon, and I hope Mr Attorney will hold me excuſed, if I make a queſtion, Whether the perſon committing hath any authority for ſuch a purpoſe? It is for my clients, who think themſelves aggrieved by this impriſonment: and in truth they ſay, that they are ſomewhat hardly dealt withal in this caſe; for the information againſt them is only for being privy to, and aſſiſting the eſcape of the centinels who were privy to Sir James Montgomery's eſcape. But this is a fact of which the court will not take notice; and therefore I ſhall confine myſelf to the return, as it appears before your Lordſhip.

With ſubmiſſion to your Lordſhip, I muſt inſiſt upon it, that a ſecretary of ſtate, *quatenus* ſecretary, cannot commit for treaſon or felony: he is not an officer for ſuch a purpoſe in common parlance. The word *ſecretary* imports only a *writer of letters*, or other eſcripts, for a ſuperior; and, as Spellman explains the word, this is the ſenſe of it, with the addition of ſecrecy, of privacy: And ſo is his gloſſary upon that word. He is not a privy-counſellor, *quatenus* a ſecretary; nor is he a juſtice: And though perhaps, in fact, he may be in the commiſſion; yet, unleſs he hath taken the oath of that office upon a *dedimus*, he cannot act as ſuch: And I have ſeen five or ſix privy-counſellors at a time appearing at a ſeſſions of the peace for this county, in the caſe of the Duke of Bedford's power, as *cuſtos rotulorum*, to remove the clerk of the peace; and when intimation was made to them of the juſtices oath which they had not taken, they refuſed to vote, and did thereupon withdraw. Here Sir William Turnbull cannot be preſumed or intended to be a juſtice of the peace; becauſe the commitment by him is as ſecretary, and not as juſtice; and ſo is the return: And upon the return the authority by which he commits ought to appear, otherwiſe the return is vicious; and here doth appear none but that of a ſecretary. Now, if the office of ſecretary doth not imply and carry in it a power of committing, then this commitment is erroneous.

Our

Our conſtitution has diſtributed the adminiſtration of juſtice, both in criminal and civil cauſes, into ſeveral courts; and hath appointed ſeveral officers for ſeveral purpoſes; ſome for civil, ſome for criminal matters; and in criminals ſome are to examine and commit, others to obey and carry, others to receive and keep; ſome to try and ſentence, others to execute; each hath his proper province: and of thoſe your Lordſhip will take notice, as alſo of their ſeveral duties and powers; and ſo do our law-books. But a ſecretary is a court-officer of ſtate, not relating to the adminiſtration of juſtice.

You take notice, as do our books, of head-boroughs, conſtables, ſheriffs, coroners, eſcheaters, and the like: But neither Coke, Crompton, Fitzherbert, Smith, or any book which treats of the juriſdiction of courts, the pleas of the crown, or the officers of juſtice, do ever mention a ſecretary of ſtate: His office rather relates to foreign negotiations than domeſtic; and if any home-affairs fall under his cognizance, it is rather as an intelligencer than with any relation to criminals, priſons, or gaolers, &c. In all the debates about the liberty of the ſubjects, and wrongful commitments, which were in parliament in 4 *Car.* I. or 1628, and amongſt all the precedents mentioned there upon each ſide, which are multitudes, there is none by a ſecretary. It is true, there are divers *per mandatum Dom. Regis*, by warrant from the Lords of the council. I have peruſed Dr Franklin's Annals of King James the 1ſt, fol. 261. and Ruſhworth, Vol. I. 458. and can find none by a warrant from a ſecretary. I have read Coke's, Selden's, and Littleton's arguments upon that ſubject, but ſee nothing of a ſecretary's commitment. And it ſeems very ſtrange, if ſuch a power were lodged in this ſtate-officer, that there ſhould be no precedents for it in thoſe times, when extrajudicial and general warrants were ſo frequent, that they became a grievance to the people, and ſuch a one as laid the foundation for the *petition of rights*.

I ſhall not controvert the power of the council at preſent, becauſe it doth not concern the preſent queſtion: All that I can obſerve in the caſe is, that it firſt began to be practiſed in Sir Lionel Jenkyns's time; and yet, even 1678, when the Popiſh plot had increaſed the number of priſoners to a wonderful

derful degree, it is notoriouſly known, that the chief juſtice Scroggs was frequently and often ſent for to Whitehall, to examine, and commit, and grant warrants. And ſometimes ſince the ſecretaries of ſtate have thrown that burden off from themſelves upon their ſecretaries under them, who have been ſworn juſtices of the peace; and Mr Bridgeman hath accordingly executed the office of a juſtice of peace at Whitehall, and that frequently. It hath been a queſtion, Whether a chancellor, or keeper of the great ſeal, can commit; and the better opinion hath been, that he cannot: And it ſeems to be agreed by Granvill's and other caſes in Moor's Reports, 839. &c. that his commitment is illegal, unleſs for a cauſe within his juriſdiction as a court of equity; and the matters muſt ſo appear. I muſt agree, that any man may apprehend another for felony or treaſon; but there is a vaſt difference between an arreſting of a traitor or felon upon ſuſpicion or knowledge, and a formal commitment to priſon with a charge of treaſon. And I am ſure Mr Attorney-general will not inſiſt upon this reaſon; for then the conſequence will be, that any man may commit, as well as a ſecretary: And I ſuppoſe that doctrine will ſcarce be allowed; though I think that any may, as well as he. The reaſon of an apprehenſion upon ſuſpicion, or hue and cry, or the like, is not to detain, but to carry to a conſtable or juſtice, as in 3. *inſt.* 52. There here the gaoler doth not return that he detains him becauſe he is guilty or ſuſpected; but becauſe, by virtue of ſuch a warrant, he is committed to his cuſtody.

Beſides, the reaſon of our law is againſt it; for a ſecretary cannot adminiſter an oath. Now the law requires, that no man ſhould be committed by an extrajudicial warrant, unleſs upon oath. If there be but a ſuſpicion, there ought to be oath of the cauſe of that ſuſpicion; for the perſon committing cannot commit upon another's ſuſpicion, unleſs there be oath of ſome reaſonable cauſe for it. He cannot take bail for any perſon accuſed, he cannot take a recognizance to proſecute, &c.

FINIS.